



Strasbourg, 22 September 2023

**CDL-OJ(2023)005ann**

Or. Engl.

**EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW**  
**(VENICE COMMISSION)**

**78<sup>th</sup> MEETING**  
**OF THE COUNCIL FOR DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS**  
**Venice, 5 October 2023 from 11:00 to 13:00**

**DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA**

## 1. Adoption of the agenda

The Council is invited to adopt its agenda as it appears in this document.

## 2. Armenia – Joint opinion of the Venice Commission and ODIHR on the draft amendments to the Electoral Code and related legislation

The Council is invited to examine with a view to approval, the draft joint opinion of the Venice Commission and ODIHR ([CDL\(2023\)035](#)) on the draft amendments to the Electoral Code and related legislation of Armenia ([CDL-REF\(2023\)028](#)), drawn up on the basis of comments by Mr Oliver Kask, Mr Tomáš Langášek, Ms Katharina Pabel and Ms Tamara Otiashvili (ODIHR expert). This joint opinion was requested by the Minister of Justice of Armenia on 12 June 2023.

The joint opinion was prepared under the [Quick Response Mechanism \(QRM\)](#) in the framework of the EU/CoE joint programme [Partnership for Good Governance](#), co-funded by the Council of Europe and the European Union and implemented by the Council of Europe.

## 3. Republic of Moldova – Joint opinion of the Venice Commission and ODIHR on amendments to the Electoral Code of the Republic of Moldova and other related laws concerning ineligibility of persons connected to political parties declared unconstitutional

The Council is invited to examine with a view to approval, the draft joint opinion of the Venice Commission and ODIHR ([CDL\(2023\)052](#)) on amendments to the Electoral Code of the Republic of Moldova and other related laws concerning ineligibility of persons connected to political parties declared unconstitutional ([CDL-REF\(2023\)032](#)), drawn up drawn up on the basis of comments by Mr Darmanović, Mr Frenđo, Ms Otálora Malassis, Mr Kaarlo Tuori (Honorary President, Expert), as well as Ms Marla Morry, Ms Lolita Čigāne and Ms Barbara Jouan Stonestreet (ODIHR Experts). This joint opinion was requested by the President of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova on 24 July 2023.

The joint opinion was prepared under the [Quick Response Mechanism \(QRM\)](#) in the framework of the EU/CoE joint programme [Partnership for Good Governance](#), co-funded by the Council of Europe and the European Union and implemented by the Council of Europe.

## 4. Ukraine – Joint opinion of the Venice Commission and ODIHR on the draft law amending certain legislative acts of Ukraine which restrict the participation in the state power of persons associated with political parties whose activities are prohibited by law

The Council is invited to examine with a view to approval, the draft joint opinion of the Venice Commission and ODIHR ([CDL\(2023\)043](#)) on the draft law amending certain legislative acts of Ukraine which restrict the participation in the state power of persons associated with political parties whose activities are prohibited by law ([CDL-REF\(2023\)044](#)), drawn up on the basis of comments by Mr Darmanović, Mr Frenđo, Ms Otálora Malassis, Mr Kaarlo Tuori (Honorary President, Expert), as well as Ms Marla Morry, Ms Lolita Čigāne and Ms Barbara Jouan Stonestreet (ODIHR Experts). This joint opinion was requested by the Monitoring Committee of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe on 26 April 2023.

## **5. Election of the President and Vice-Presidents**

The Council will be invited to elect a new President and two Vice-Presidents following the entry into force of the [Revised Internal Rules of Procedure](#) of the Council for Democratic Elections on 1 October 2023.

The following candidates have been nominated:

- By the Congress: Mr Dickson (for president)
- By the Venice Commission: Mr Darmanović (for vice-president)
- By the Parliamentary Assembly: Mr Link (for vice-president)

## **6. List of activities since the last meeting:**

. Legal assistance to the Parliamentary Assembly delegation observing the early parliamentary elections in Montenegro (11 June 2023);

. Conference on E-voting and use of ICT in elections "Taking stock and moving forward", co-organised by the Democratic Governance Division and Division of Elections and Participatory Democracy, DGII, Council of Europe, Strasbourg, France, 16 June 2023;

. Hybrid Congress "Digital technologies: democracy and regulation in Europe and America", co-organised by the Electoral Tribunal of the Federal Judiciary of Mexico and the Venice Commission, Mexico City, 20-21 June 2023;

. Congress "2024 Elections in Mexico. International Jurisdictional Electoral Accompaniment", co-organised by the Electoral Tribunal of the Federal Judiciary of Mexico and *El Colegio de México*, Mexico City, 11-12 September 2023.

## **7. Forthcoming events**

. Participation in the *Ad Hoc* Committee of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe to observe the forthcoming parliamentary elections in Poland which will be held on 15 October 2023.

## **8. Date of the next meeting**

The Council is invited to fix the date of its next meeting for Thursday, 14 December 2023 from 10.00 am to 12 noon.