

Strasbourg 30 May 2014

CDL-PL-OJ(2014)002ann Or. Engl

# EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW (VENICE COMMISSION)

99<sup>th</sup> PLENARY SESSION Venice, Scuola Grande di San Giovanni Evangelista Friday, 13 June 2014 (9.00 a.m.) -Saturday, 14 June 2014 (1.00 p.m.)

# DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA

# Friday, 13 June 2014

9h00-10h45	Opening session Elections Co-operation with Council of Europe organs Follow-up to earlier Venice Commission opinions Discussion and adoption of opinions on individual countries
	Discussion and adoption of opinions on individual countries

# 1. Adoption of the Agenda

# 2. Communication by the President

The President will present his recent activities (see document CDL(2014)035).

# 3. Communication by the Secretariat

# 4. Election of a member of the Bureau, the Vice-Chair of the Council for Democratic Elections and the Vice-Chair of the Sub-Commission on Democratic Institutions

The Commission is invited to elect a member of the Bureau, the Vice Chair of the Council for Democratic Elections and the Vice-Chair of the Sub-Commission on Democratic Institutions who will complete the mandates of the previous incumbents until December 2015.

# 5. Co-operation with the Committee of Ministers

Within the framework of its co-operation with the Committee of Ministers, the Commission will hold an exchange of views with Ambassador Rudolf Lennkh, Permanent Representative of Austria to the Council of Europe and with Mr Santiago Oñate Laborde, Permanent Observer of Mexico to the Council of Europe.

# 6. Co-operation with the Parliamentary Assembly

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with Mr Christopher Chope, Member of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, on co-operation with the Assembly.

The opinion on the Russian Federation (see item 12) falls into the framework of co-operation with the Parliamentary Assembly.

# 7. Co-operation with the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with Mr Lars O. Molin, Chair of the Monitoring Committee of the Congress and with Mr Alain Delcamp, former Chair of the Group of Independent Experts, the Congress' advisor on constitutional matters.

# 8. Follow-up to earlier Venice Commission opinions

The Commission will be informed on follow-up to:

Amicus curiae brief for the Constitutional Court of Georgia on individual application by public broadcasters (<u>CDL-AD(2014)014</u>);

Joint Opinion on the draft Electoral Code of Bulgaria (<u>CDL-AD(2014)001</u>);

Joint Opinion on the Law on Amending some legislative acts on the election of the President of Ukraine adopted by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on 24 July 2009 (CDL-AD(2009)040).

The draft opinions on Armenia, Azerbaijan and Kyrgyzstan (draft law on the Constitutional Chamber and draft law on the status of judges), as well as the discussions on Georgia and Ukraine (see items 14, 15, 13, 16 and 10) are a follow-up to previous opinions adopted on these countries.

# 9. Albania

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with Mr Nasip Naço, Minister of Justice of Albania and to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft opinion (<u>CDL(2014)022</u>) on the draft amendments to the Civil and Criminal Procedure Codes of Albania (<u>CDL-REF(2014)015</u>) drawn up on the basis of comments by Mr Paczolay and Mr Ribičič (see also document <u>CDL(2014)021</u>).

10h45-11h00	Coffee break
11h00-13h00	Discussion and adoption of opinions on individual countries (Continued)

#### 10. Ukraine

The Commission will be informed on constitutional co-operation with Ukraine in particular the meetings held in Kiev on 15 April and on 27 May 2014.

#### 11. Slovak Republic

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with the representative of the Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic and to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft opinion (<u>CDL(2014)030</u>) on the procedure for appointing judges of the Constitutional Court of the Slovak Republic, drawn up on the basis of comments by Mr Clayton, Mr Frendo, Mr Grabenwarter and Mr Vermeulen.

The Sub-Commission on Democratic Institutions will examine this draft opinion at its meeting on 12 June 2014.

#### 12. Russian Federation

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with the representatives of the Russian Federation and to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft opinion (CDL(2014)028) on Federal Law no. 121 on Non-commercial Organisations (Law on Foreign Agents) of the Russian Federation (CDL-REF(2013)037) and on Federal Law no. 190-fz on making amendments to the Criminal Code (Law on Treason) of the Russian Federation (CDL-REF(2013)036), drawn up on the basis of comments by Ms Bilkova, Mr Paczolay, Mr Sorensen, Ms Thorgeirsdottir and Mr Velaers.

The Sub-Commission on Fundamental Rights will examine this draft opinion at its meeting on 12 June 2014.

13h00-14h30	Lunch
14h30-16h00	Discussion and adoption of opinions on individual countries (Continued)

# 13. Kyrgyzstan

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with Mr Danyar Narymbaev, Head of the Presidential Administration of the Kyrgyz Republic and with Mr Omurbek Tekebaev, Member of Parliament, co-drafter of the electoral legislation, and to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft joint opinion (<u>CDL(2014)025</u>) by the Venice Commission and the OSCE/ODIHR on the draft electoral code of the Kyrgyz Republic (<u>CDL-REF(2014)014</u>) drawn up on the basis of comments by Mr Endzins, Mr Esanu and Mr Jessie Pilgrim (OSCE/ODIHR expert).

# 14. Armenia

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with the representative of the National Assembly and to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft opinion (<u>CDL(2014)027</u>) on the draft law on Making Amendments and Supplements to the Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia (<u>CDL-REF(2014)016</u>) drawn up on the basis of comments by Mr Hirschfeldt, Ms Thomassen, Mr Tuori and Mr Varga.

The Commission will be informed on the progress of work on the opinion on Constitutional Reform in Armenia.

# 15. Azerbaijan

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with Mr Shahin Aliyev, Head of Department of Legislation and Legal Expertise, Office of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan and to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft joint opinion (CDL(2014)031) by the Venice Commission and the Directorate General of Democracy (DGII) on draft amendments to the law on the Status of Municipalities of the Republic of Azerbaijan (CDL-REF(2014)018) drawn up on the basis of comments by Mr Kang, Mr Scholsem and Mr Gérard Marcou (DGII expert).

16h00-16h15	Coffee Break
16h15-18h00	Discussion and adoption of opinions on individual countries (Continued)

# 16. Georgia

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with Ms Tinatin Khidasheli, Member of the State Constitutional Reform Commission on the progress of work on Constitutional Reform in Georgia following the Rapporteurs' visit to Tbilisi on 21-22 May 2014.

# 13. (Contd) Kyrgyzstan

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with Mr Toktogul Tumanov, Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Judiciary of the Kyrgyz Republic, and to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft joint opinion (<u>CDL(2014)023</u>) by the Venice Commission and the OSCE/ODIHR on the Draft Constitutional Law "On introducing amendments to the Constitutional Law 'On the Status of Judges of the Kyrgyz Republic'" (<u>CDL-REF(2014)019</u>) drawn up on the basis of comments by Mr Esanu, Mr Gumi and Mr Karoly Bard (OSCE/ODIHR expert).

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with Mr Mukambet Shadykanovich Kasymaliev, President of the Constitutional Chamber of the Kyrgyz Republic and to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft opinion (<u>CDL(2014)033</u>) on the draft law on the Constitutional Chamber of the Kyrgyz Republic (<u>CDL-REF(2014)017</u>) drawn up on the basis of comments by Mr Harutyunyan, Mr Ribičič and Mr Vardzelashvili.

# 17. Tajikistan

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with Mr Makham Mahmudov, President of the Constitutional Court of Tajikistan and with Mr Mahmadali Vatanov, Chairman of the Human Rights Committee of the Parliament of Tajikistan and to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft opinion (<u>CDL(2014)026</u>) on the Draft Constitutional Law on the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Tajikistan (<u>CDL-REF(2014)013</u>) drawn up on the basis of comments by Mr Endzins, Mr Harutyunyan, and Mr Mihai.

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19h45 Dinner at Hotel Papadopoli Venezia, Venice

Link to Hotel Papadopoli Venezia web site

# Saturday, 14 June 2014

9h00-11h00	Studies and Reports Co-operation with Latin America Libya Principality of Monaco Co-operation with other countries
	Information on constitutional developments in other countries

# 18. Joint Venice Commission-OSCE/ODIHR Guidelines on the legal personality of Religious or Belief Communities

The Commission is invited to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft revised joint Guidelines on the legal personality of Religious or Belief Communities by the Venice Commission and the OSCE/ODIHR (CDL(2014)029) drawn up on the basis of comments by Ms Flanagan, Mr Vermeulen and members of the OSCE/ODIHR Panel.

# 19. Report on Freedom of Assembly

The Commission is invited to endorse the comparative study on Freedom of Assembly (CDL(2014)032) drawn up by the Max Planck Institute

# 20. Joint Venice Commission-OSCE/ODIHR Guidelines on Freedom of Association

The Commission will be informed on progress of work in the preparation of joint Venice Commission-OSCE/ODIHR Guidelines on Freedom of Association.

# 21. Co-operation with Latin America

The Commission will be informed on the results of the International Conference "the constitutional protection of economic and social rights in times of economic crisis. What role for

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the judges?" as well as on the meeting of the Sub-Commission on Latin America which took place in Ouro Preto, Brazil on 5-6 May 2014 (see document <u>CDL-LA-PV(2014)001</u>).

# 22. Libya

Mr Ali Tarhouni, Chair of the Constitution Drafting Assembly of Libya, will inform the Commission on the state of preparation of the new Constitution of Libya.

# 23. Principality of Monaco

Mr Didier Linotte, President of the Supreme Court of the Principality of Monaco will inform the Commission on the situation of the judiciary in the Principality of Monaco.

# 24. Co-operation with other countries

Morocco

The Commission will be informed on co-operation with Morocco.

# 25. Information on constitutional developments in other countries

Norway

The Commission will be informed on recent Constitutional developments in Norway.

Tunisia

The Commission will be informed on recent Constitutional developments in Tunisia.

Turkey

The Commission will be informed on recent Constitutional developments in Turkey.

11h00-11h15 11h15-12h45	Coffee Break Report of the meeting of the Council for Democratic Elections Report of the meeting of the Scientific Council	
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# 26. Report of the meeting of the Council for Democratic Elections (12 June 2014)

The President of the Council will inform the Commission on the results and conclusions of the meeting held on 12 June 2014.

Link to annotated agenda

The draft opinion on the Electoral Code of the Kyrgyz Republic is dealt with under item 13.

# 27. Report of the meeting of the Scientific Council (12 June 2014)

The President of the Scientific Council will inform the Commission on the results and conclusions of the meeting held on 12 June 2014.

12h45-13h00	
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Closing session

# 28. Other business

The Commission will be informed on the preparation of the 100<sup>th</sup> Session which will take place in Rome on 10-11 October 2014 at the invitation of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs as well as on the 4<sup>th</sup> Intercultural Workshop for Democracy on the Rule of law which will also take place in Rome on 9 October 2014.

#### 29. Dates of the next sessions

100 <sup>th</sup> Plenary Session	10-11 October 2014 (Rome)
101 <sup>st</sup> Plenary Session	12-13 December 2014

Sub-Commission meetings as well as the meetings of the Council for Democratic Elections will take place on the day before the Plenary Sessions. Please note that In October the Council for Democratic Elections will not meet.

Link to the provisional list of participants

Link to list of meetings

Link to table plan