

Strasbourg, 3 October 2023

CDL-PL-OJ(2023)003ann-rev Or. Engl.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW (VENICE COMMISSION)

136th PLENARY SESSION VENICE Scuola Grande di San Giovanni Evangelista Friday 6 October 2023 (9:30-18:00) Saturday 7 October 2023 (9:30-12:30)

REVISED ANNOTATED AGENDA

Friday 6 October 2023

09:30-11:00 Adoption of the Agenda Communications Co-operation Follow-up to earlier Venice Commission Opinions Discussion and adoption of Opinions on individual countries

1. Adoption of the Agenda

2. Communication by the President

The President will present her recent activities (CDL(2023)054).

3. Communication from the Enlarged Bureau

The Commission will be informed on the discussions which took place at the meeting of the Enlarged Bureau on 5 October 2023.

4. Election of a Committee of Wise Persons

In accordance with Article 6, paragraph 1bis of the Revised Rules of Procedure, the Commission is invited to elect the Committee of Wise Persons proposed by the Enlarged Bureau, who will prepare the elections which will be held during the December 2023 session.

5. Communication by the Secretariat

6. 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 Mr Harry Alex Rusz, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of Hungary to the Council of Europe, and with Ms Ragnhildur Arnljótsdóttir, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Iceland to the Council of Europe.

7. Co-operation with the Parliamentary Assembly

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with Mr Constantinos Efstathiou, Representative 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 draft follow-up Opinion on previous Opinions on the amendments to the Organic Law on Common Courts of Georgia; the draft joint Opinion of the Venice Commission and the Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law (DGI) of the Council of Europe on the Judiciary Organisation Act and the independence of the judiciary of the Netherlands; the urgent Opinion on the Law on the State Commission to Investigate Russian Influence on Internal Security in the Republic of Poland between 2007 and 2022 and on the draft law amending that Law; the draft 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 of Ukraine and the follow-up Opinion to the Opinion on the law on national minorities (communities) (draft law #9610) fall into the framework of co-operation with the Parliamentary Assembly (see Items 15, 16, 21, 13.1 and 13.4).

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

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with Mr Leendert Verbeek, President of the Congress and with Ms Gudrun Mosler-Törnström, Chair of the Congress Monitoring Committee on co-operation with the Congress.

9. Exchange of views with the Regione del Veneto

Mr Francesco Calzavara, Regional Minister for Planning, Budget and Assets, General Affaires and Local Government and Ms Annalisa Bisson, Director of International Relations and European Affairs of the Regione del Veneto will address the Commission.

10. Follow-up to earlier Venice Commission Opinions

The Commission will be informed on follow-up to its previous Opinions (see document (CDL(2023)047).

- Bosnia and Herzegovina Opinion on the draft Law on amendments to the Law on the High Judicial and Prosecutorial Council (<u>CDL-AD(2021)015</u>);
- Croatia Opinion on the introduction of the procedure of renewal of security vetting through amendments to the Courts Act (<u>CDL-AD(2022)005</u>);
- Republic of Moldova Amicus curiae brief on declaring a political party unconstitutional (CDL-AD(2022)051);
- Republic of Moldova Joint follow-up Opinion of the Venice Commission and the Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law of the Council of Europe to the Opinion on the Draft Law on the Supreme Court of Justice (<u>CDL-AD(2022)049</u>);
- Montenegro Urgent Opinion on the Law on amendments to the Law on the President of Montenegro (<u>CDL-AD(2022)053</u>).

Under item 15 the Commission will be invited to discuss, with a view to adoption the follow-up to:

 Georgia – the Opinion on previous Opinions on the amendments to the Organic Law on Common Courts (<u>CDL-AD(2023)006</u>).

Under item 12 the Commission will be invited to discuss, with a view to adoption the follow-up to

- Republic of Moldova the Opinion to the Opinion on the draft law on the Intelligence and Security Service, as well as on the draft law on counterintelligence and external intelligence activity (<u>CDL-AD(2023)008</u>);
- Republic of Moldova the joint Opinion to the previous Opinions on the draft Law on the external assessment of Judges and Prosecutors (<u>CDL-AD(2023)023</u>).

Under item 13 the Commission will be invited to discuss, with a view to adoption the follow-up to

 Ukraine – the Opinion to the Opinion on the Law on National Minorities (draft law #9610) (CDL-AD(2023)021);

Under item 13 the Commission will be invited to discuss, with a view to endorsement the followup to

• Ukraine – the Urgent Opinion to the Opinions on the Law on "Amendments to certain legislative acts of Ukraine to clarify the provisions on the competitive selection of

candidates for the position of judge of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine" (CDL-AD(2023)022.

The Commission will be informed about follow-up activities held since the last session.

11. Electoral observation missions

The Commission will be informed about the participation of the Venice Commission in electoral observation missions of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe in the function of providing legal advice.

- Montenegro, early parliamentary elections, 11 June 2023;
- Poland, parliamentary elections, 15 October 2023.

10.45-11:15	Coffee break
11:15-13:00	Discussion and adoption of Opinions on individual countries

12. Republic of Moldova

1. Draft follow-up Opinion to the Opinion on the draft law on the Intelligence and Security Service, as well as on the draft law on counterintelligence and external intelligence activity

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with a representative of the Republic of Moldova and to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft follow-up Opinion (<u>CDL(2023)053</u>) (TVD/MS/kb) to the Opinion on the draft law on the Intelligence and Security Service, as well as on the draft law on counterintelligence and external intelligence activity (<u>CDL-REF(2023)034</u>) and (<u>CDL-REF(2023)035</u>), drawn up on the basis of comments by Mr Barrett, Ms Kiener and Mr Vermeulen. This Opinion was requested by the President of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova on 17 July 2023.

The follow-up Opinion was prepared under the <u>Quick Response Mechanism (QRM)</u> in the framework of the EU/CoE joint programme <u>Partnership for Good Governance</u>, co-funded by the Council of Europe and the European Union and implemented by the Council of Europe.

2. Draft joint Opinion of the Venice Commission and the Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law (DGI) of the Council of Europe on the draft law on the anti-corruption judicial system and on amending some normative acts

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with Mr Eduard Serbenco, State Secretary, Ministry of Justice from the Republic of Moldova and to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft joint Opinion of the Venice Commission and the Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law (DGI) of the Council of Europe (CDL(2023)050) (NS/ms) on the draft law on the anti-corruption judicial system and on amending some normative acts (CDL-REF(2023)030), drawn up on the basis of comments by Mr Dimitrov, Ms Nussberger, Mr Ojanen, Ms Suchocka (Honorary President, Expert) and Mr Filipe Marques (DGI Expert). This draft joint Opinion was requested by the President of Moldova on 2 August 2023. The Joint Sub-Commission on the Judiciary and on the Rule of Law will examine this draft joint Opinion at their meeting on 5 October 2023.

The joint Opinion was prepared under the <u>Quick Response Mechanism (QRM)</u> in the framework of the EU/CoE joint programme <u>Partnership for Good Governance</u>, co-funded by the Council of Europe and the European Union and implemented by the Council of Europe.

3. Draft joint follow-up Opinion of the Venice Commission and the Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law (DGI) of the Council of Europe to the joint Opinion on the draft Law on the external assessment of Judges and Prosecutors

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with a representative of the Republic of Moldova and to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft joint follow-up Opinion (CDL(2023)057) (TP/sb) to the joint Opinion on the draft Law on the external assessment of Judges and Prosecutors (CDL-REF(2023)046), drawn up on the basis of comments by Mr Dimitrov, Mr Alexander Baramidze (former Substitute Member, Expert) and Mr Đuro Sessa (DGI Expert). This joint follow-up Opinion was requested by the Minister of Justice of the Republic of Moldova on 8 September 2023.

4. Draft joint Opinion of the Venice Commission and OSCE/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 Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with Mr Eduard Serbenco, State Secretary, Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Moldova and to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft joint Opinion of the Venice Commission and ODIHR (<u>CDL(2023)052</u>) (PG/DV/ms) 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 (<u>CDL-REF(2023)032</u>), drawn up on the basis of comments by Mr Darmanović, Mr Frendo, Ms Otálora Malassis, Mr Kaarlo Tuori (Honorary President, Expert), as well as by Ms Marla Morry, Ms Lolita Čigāne and Ms Barbara Jouan Stonestreet (ODIHR Experts). This Opinion was requested by the President of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova on 24 July 2023. The Council for Democratic Elections will examine this draft joint Opinion at its meeting on 5 October 2023. The Joint Sub-Commission on Democratic Institutions and on Latin America will examine this draft joint Opinion at its meeting on 5 October 2023.

The joint Opinion was prepared under the <u>Quick Response Mechanism (QRM)</u> in the framework of the EU/CoE joint programme <u>Partnership for Good Governance</u>, co-funded by the Council of Europe and the European Union and implemented by the Council of Europe.

13. Ukraine

1. Draft joint Opinion of the Venice Commission and OSCE/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 Commission is invited to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft joint Opinion of the Venice Commission and OSCE/ODIHR (<u>CDL(2023)043</u>) (PG/DV/ad) 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 (<u>CDL-REF(2023)044</u>), drawn up on the basis of comments by Mr Darmanović, Mr Frendo, Ms Otálora Malassis, Mr Kaarlo Tuori (Honorary President, Expert), Ms Marla Morry, Ms Lolita Čigāne and Ms Barbara Jouan Stonestreet (ODIHR Experts). This Opinion was requested by the Monitoring Committee of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe on 26 April 2023. The Council for Democratic Elections will examine this draft joint Opinion at its meeting on 5 October 2023. The Sub-Commissions on Democratic Institutions and on Latin America will examine this draft joint Opinion at their joint meeting on 5 October 2023.

2. Draft Opinion on the draft law on Amendments to Article 51 of the Rules of Procedure of the Verkhovna Rada on political liability of Members of Parliament associated with political parties whose activities have been suspended

The Commission is invited to to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft Opinion (<u>CDL(2023)044</u>) (DV/PG/ad) on the draft law on Amendments to Article 51 of the Rules of Procedure of the Verkhovna Rada on political liability of Members of Parliament associated with

political parties whose activities have been suspended (<u>CDL-REF(2023)039</u>), drawn up on the basis of comments by Mr Darmanović, Mr Frendo, Ms Otálora Malassis and Mr Kaarlo Tuori (Honorary President, Expert). This Opinion was requested by the Speaker of Ukraine on 26 May 2023.

3. Urgent Follow-up Opinion to the Opinions on the Law on "Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine on improving the procedure for the selection of candidates for the position of judge of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine on a Competitive Basis"

The Commission is invited to endorse the urgent follow-up Opinion (<u>CDL-PI(2023)022</u>) (SGM/ML/ad) to the Opinions on the Law on "Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine on improving the procedure for the selection of candidates for the position of judge of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine on a Competitive Basis" (<u>CDL-AD(2023)022</u>), (<u>CDL-REF(2023)037</u>) drawn up on the basis of comments by Mr Carozza, Ms Cartabia, Mr Darmanović and Mr Grabenwarter. This urgent follow-up Opinion was requested by the Speaker of the Verkhovan Rada of Ukraine on 5 September 2023 and issued on 25 Sept in accordance with the Protocol on the preparation of Venice Commission urgent Opinions (<u>CDL-AD(2018)019</u>).

13:00-14:30	Lunch break
14:30-15:45	Discussion and adoption of Opinions on individual countries

13. Ukraine (continued)

4. Draft joint follow-up Opinion of the Venice Commission and the Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law (DGI) of the Council of Europe to the joint Opinion on the draft amendments to the Law "On the Judiciary and the Status of Judges" and Certain Laws on the Activities of the Supreme Court and Judicial Authorities (<u>CDL-AD(2020)022</u>)

The Commission is invited to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft joint follow-up Opinion of the Venice Commission and the Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law (DGI) of the Council of Europe (<u>CDL(2023)039</u>) (TP/ML/ad) to the joint Opinion on the draft amendments to the Law "On the Judiciary and the Status of Judges" and Certain Laws on the Activities of the Supreme Court and Judicial Authorities (<u>CDL-AD(2020)022</u>) (<u>CDL-REF(2023)041</u>), drawn up on the basis of comments by Mr Kuijer, Ms Hanna Suchocka (Honorary President, Expert) and Mr Gerhard Reissner (DGI Expert). This Opinion was requested by Chairman of the High Council of Justice of Ukraine on 4 August 2023.

5. Draft Follow-up Opinion to the Opinion on the law on national minorities (communities) (draft law #9610)

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with Mr Ihor Lossovskyi, Deputy Head of the State Service of Ukraine for Ethnic Affairs and Freedom of Conscience, and Mr Oleksandr Ilkov, Director General of the Government Office for Coordination on European and Euro-Atlantic Integrationof Ukraine and to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft Follow up Opinion (CDL(2023)045) (PG/ad) to the Opinion on the law on national minorities (communities) (draft law #9610) (CDL-REF(2023)043) and (CDL-REF(2023)047), drawn up on the basis of comments by Ms Bílková, Ms Kiener, Ms Otálora-Malassis and Mr Velaers. This draft Follow-up Opinion was requested by the Speaker of Ukraine on 5 September 2023 as well as by the Monitoring Committee of the Parliamentary Assembly on 13 September 2023

21. Poland

Urgent Opinion on the Law on the State Commission to investigate Russian Influence on Internal Security in the Republic of Poland between 2007 and 2022 and on the draft law amending that Law

The Commission is invited to endorse the urgent Opinion (<u>CDL-PI(2023)021</u>) (ML/PG/ld) on the Law on the State Commission to investigate Russian Influence on Internal Security in the Republic of Poland between 2007 and 2022 and on the draft law amending that Law (<u>CDL-REF(2023)027</u>), drawn up on the basis of comments by Ms Bílková, Mr Kask, Ms Kiener, Mr Kuijer and Ms Pabel. This urgent Opinion was requested by the Monitoring Committee of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe on 21 June 2023 and was issued on 26 July 2023 in accordance with the Protocol on the preparation of Venice Commission urgent Opinions (<u>CDL-AD(2018)019</u>).

15. Georgia

Draft follow-up Opinion to previous Opinions on the amendments to the Organic Law on Common Courts

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with a representative of Georgia and to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft follow-up Opinion (<u>CDL(2023)036</u>) (TP/SJ/ld) to previous Opinions on the amendments to the Organic Law on Common Courts of Georgia (<u>CDL-REF(2023)031</u>) and (CDL-REF(2023)048), drawn up on the basis of comments by Mr Atar, Mr Holmøyvik and Mr Sørensen. This follow-up Opinion was requested by the Monitoring Committee of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe on 23 June 2023 and by the Chairman of Parliament of Georgia on 22 September 2023.

15:45-16:00Coffee break16:00-18:00Discussion and adoption of Opinions on individual countries

16. Netherlands

Draft joint Opinion of the Venice Commission and the Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law (DGI) of the Council of Europe on the legal safeguards of the independence of the judiciary from the executive power

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with Ms Anneke Van Dijk, Director-General for the Administration of Justice and Law Enforcement of the Netherlands and to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft joint Opinion of the Venice Commission and the Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law (DGI) of the Council of Europe (<u>CDL(2023)041</u>) (MS/TvD/is) on the legal safeguards of the independence of the judiciary from the executive power (<u>CDL-REF(2023)038</u>), drawn up on the basis of comments by Mr Barrett, Ms Deskoska, Mr Grabenwarter, Mr Holmøyvik, Mr Pinelli, Ms Hanna Suchocka (Honorary President, Expert) and Ms Nina Betetto (DGI Expert). This joint Opinion was requested by the Monitoring Committee of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe on 2 June 2023. The Sub-Commissions on the Judiciary and on the Rule of Law will examine this draft joint Opinion at their joint meeting on 5 October 2023.

17. Montenegro

Draft Opinion on the draft law on the Government of Montenegro

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with Mr Marash Dukaj, Minister of Public Administration of Montenegro and to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft Opinion (CDL(2023)042) (RG/PG/Id/is) on the draft law on the Government of Montenegro (CDL-REF(2023)040), drawn up on the basis of comments by Mr Newman, Mr Seners and Mr Vardanyan. This Opinion was requested by the Minister of Public Administration of Montenegro on 27 July 2023.

The Opinion was prepared under the <u>Expertise Co-ordination Mechanism</u> in the framework of the joint European Union and Council of Europe programme "<u>Horizontal Facility</u> for the Western Balkans and Türkiye".

18. Kyrgyzstan

1. Draft Opinion on the draft law of the Kyrgyzstan about the media

The Commission is invited to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft Opinion (CDL(2023)048) (VD/ha/ms) on the draft law of the Kyrgyzstan about the media (CDL-REF(2023)029), drawn up on the basis of comments by Ms Bílková, Ms Kjerulf-Thorgeirsdottir, Mr Pinelli and Mr Vermeulen. This Opinion was requested by the Minister of Justice of Kyrgyzstan on 19 May 2023.

2. Draft Opinion on the draft Constitutional Law on the Ombudsman of Kyrgyzstan

The Commission is invited to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft Opinion (<u>CDL(2023)049</u>) (ML/CM/sb) on the draft Constitutional Law on the Ombudsman of the Kyrgyzstan (<u>CDL-REF(2023)042</u>), drawn up on the basis of comments by Ms Barić, Ms Matheson Mestad and Mr Sorensen. This Opinion was requested by the Ombudsman of the Kyrgyz Republic on 30 June 2023.

19:30	Dinner at Hotel Papadopoli Venezia
	Link to Hotel Papadopoli Venezia web site

Saturday 7 October 2023

9:00-11:00

Discussion and adoption of Opinions

19. Chile

Draft Opinion on the 2023 Process of Constitutional Reform in Chile

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with Mr Juan Antonio Coloma Correa, President of the Senate of Chile and to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft Opinion (CDL(2023)040) (SGM/DV/ew) on the 2023 Process of Constitutional Reform in Chile (CDL-REF(2023)045) and (CDL-REF(2023)049), drawn up on the basis of comments by Mr Carozza, Ms Otálora Malassis, Ms Hanna Suchocka (Honorary President, Expert) and Mr Kaarlo Tuori (Honorary President, Expert) and Mr Josep Maria Castellà Andreu (former Member, Expert). This Opinion was requested by the President of the Senate of Chile on 9 August 2023. The Sub-Commissions on Democratic Institutions and on Latin America will examine this draft Opinion at their joint meeting on 5 October 2023.

20. Bulgaria

Draft Opinion on the draft amendments to the Constitution

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with Mr Atanas Slavov, Minister of Justice of Bulgaria to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft Opinion (<u>CDL(2023)038</u>) (DF/Sc/ld) on the draft amendments to the Constitution of Bulgaria (<u>CDL-REF(2023)033</u>), drawn up on the basis of comments by Ms Cartabia, Mr Qerimi, Mr Kaarlo Tuori (Honorary President, Expert) and Mr James Hamilton (former Member, Expert). This Opinion was requested by the Minister of Justice of Bulgaria on 2 August 2023. The Sub-Commissions on Democratic Institutions and on Latin America will examine this draft Opinion at their joint meeting on 5 October 2023.

14. Armenia

Draft joint Opinion of the Venice Commission and the OSCE/ODIHR on the draft amendments to the Electoral Code and related legislation

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with Mr Karen Karapetyan, Deputy Minister of Justice of Armenia and to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft joint Opinion of the Venice Commission and the OSCE/ODIHR (<u>CDL(2023)035</u>) (MJ/PG/ob/kb) on the draft amendments to the Electoral Code and related legislation of Armenia (<u>CDL-REF(2023)028</u>), drawn up on the basis of comments by Mr Kask, Mr Langášek, Ms Pabel and Ms Tamara Otiashvili (OSCE/ODIHR Expert). This Opinion was requested by the Minister of Justice of Armenia on 12 June 2023. The Council for Democratic Elections will examine this draft joint Opinion at its meeting on 5 October 2023.

The joint Opinion was prepared under the <u>Quick Response Mechanism (QRM)</u> in the framework of the EU/CoE joint programme <u>Partnership for Good Governance</u>, co-funded by the Council of Europe and the European Union and implemented by the Council of Europe.

22. Communication from the Committee of Wise Persons

The Group of Wise Persons will inform the Commission on the preparation of the elections to the Commission's offices to take place in December 2023.

11:00-11:30 11:30-12:30	Coffee Break Report of the Joint meeting of the Sub-Commissions on Democratic Institutions and Latin America Report of the Joint meeting of the Sub-Commission on the Judiciary and on the Rule of Law Information on conferences and seminars Report of the meeting of the Council for Democratic Elections General matters
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23. Report of the Joint Meeting of the Sub-Commission on Democratic Institutions and Latin America (5 October 2023)

The Chair of the meeting might inform the Commission on the results and conclusions of the meeting held on 5 October 2023.

Link to annotated agenda

24. Report of the Joint Meeting of the Sub-Commissions on the Judiciary and on the Rule of Law (5 October 2023)

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The Chair of the meeting might inform the Commission on the results and conclusions of the meeting held on 5 October 2023.

Link to annotated agenda

25. Information on Conferences and Seminars

The Commission will be informed on the results and conclusions of:

- Conference on "*Democracy in Europe: How can parliamentarians help safeguard and strengthen democracy and the Rule of Law?*", Stockholm, 18-19 June 2023;
- Congress on "*Digital Technologies : Democracy and regulation in Europe and America*" Mexico, 19-21 June 2023;
- Stockholm Symposium on "Democracy and the Rule of Law", Stockholm, 21-22 June 2023;
- International conference on *"the Constitution as a Foundation for Building a Democratic State under the rule of law"*, Issyk Kul, 21-22 June 2023;
- Conference "World Law Congress", New York, 20 July 2023;
- Conference on *"Constitutional Justice: Dignity, freedom and justice for all"*, Astana, 7-8 September 2023;
- International Congress "2024 Elections in Mexico. International Jurisdictional Electoral Accompaniment", 11 and 12 September 2023;
- Conference on "Constitutions and War", Madrid, 14-15 September 2023;
- International Conference "Ombudsman : The Role of Ombudsman in the World : between reality and possibility", Rome, 21-22 September 2023;
- Cyprus Forum, participation in panel on "*The role of the Attorney General and checks and balances*", Nicosia, 29-30 September 2023

The Commission will be informed on the upcoming conferences and seminars:

- Conference "Criminal Justice and Human Rights Emerging trends and challenges", Bishkek, 20 October 2023.
- Conference on *"Stability of Electoral Law: a Principle of the European Electoral Heritage"*, Barcelona, 3 November 2023;
- Conference on *"Money and Democracy An uneasy relationship"*, Cologne, 7-8 December 2023;

26. Report of the meeting of the Council for Democratic Elections (5 October 2023)

The chair of the meeting will inform the Commission on the results and conclusions of the meeting held on 5 October 2023.

The draft joint Opinion of the Venice Commission and OSCE/ODIHR on draft amendments to the Electoral Code and related legislation of Armenia; the draft joint Opinion of the Venice Commission and OSCE/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, and the draft joint Opinion of the Venice Commission and OSCE/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 falls into the framework of co-operation with the Parliamentary Assembly (see Items 14, 12.4 and 13.1).

Link to annotated agenda

27. Other business

28. Dates of the next sessions

137th Plenary Session	15-16 December 2023
138th plenary session	15-16 March 2024
139th plenary session	21-22 June 2024
140th plenary session	11-12 October 2024
141st plenary session	6-7 December 2024

Please note that Sub-Commission meetings as well as the meeting of the Council for Democratic Elections will take place on the day before the Plenary Sessions.