



Strasbourg, 11 March 2025

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Or. Engl.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW
(VENICE COMMISSION)

142nd PLENARY SESSION
VENICE
Scuola Grande di San Giovanni Evangelista

Friday 14 March 2025 (9:30-18:00)
Saturday 15 March 2025 (9.00-13:00)

REVISED DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA

Friday 14 March 2025

09:30-11:00

*Adoption of the Agenda
Communications
Co-operation
Follow-up to earlier Venice Commission Opinions
Electoral observation missions
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\(2025\)018](#)).

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 13 March 2025.

4. Communication by the Secretariat

The Secretary of the Commission will provide information on the session.

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 Mr Juan Ignacio Morro, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative, of Spain to the Council of Europe.

6. Co-operation with the Parliamentary Assembly

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with Ms Ingjerd Schou, Representative of the Assembly to the Venice Commission and Mr Antonio Gutiérrez Limones, Representative of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

The Urgent Opinion on amendments to the Code of administrative offences and the Law on assemblies and demonstrations of Georgia; the draft Opinion on certain provisions of Act XVII of 2024 concerning the power of the Minister of Justice to request judicial and prosecutorial decisions as well as related documents of Hungary; the draft Opinion on the Emergency Ordinance regarding some measures for the organisation and conduct of the elections for members from Romania in the European Parliament in 2024 and the elections for local public administration authorities in 2024 of Romania; and the Urgent Report on the cancellation of election results by Constitutional Courts fall into the framework of co-operation with the Parliamentary Assembly (see Items 14, 20, 21.1 and 23).

7. 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 Marc Cools, President of the Congress of Regional and Local Authorities of the Council of Europe, on co-operation with the Congress.

The draft Opinion on the amendments to the Organic Law “Election Code of Georgia”, pertaining to local elections of Georgia falls into the framework of co-operation with the Parliamentary Assembly (see Item 21.2).

8. Report of the meeting of the Council for Democratic Elections (13 March 2025)

Mr Stewart Dickson, President of the Council for Democratic Elections will inform the Commission on the results and conclusions of the meeting held on 13 March 2025.

The draft Opinion on the amendments to the Organic Law “Election Code of Georgia”, pertaining to local elections, the Opinion on the draft constitutional amendments to Article 99 of the Constitution of Peru concerning the accountability of members of election management bodies, the Opinion on the Emergency Ordinance regarding some measures for the organisation and conduct of the elections for members from Romania in the European Parliament in 2024 and the elections for local public administration authorities of Romania in 2024 and the Urgent Report on the cancellation of election results by Constitutional Courts are dealt under Items 19, 20, 21.2 et 23.

[Link to the annotated agenda](#)

9. Exchange of views with the Regione del Veneto

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with Ms Annalisa Bisson, Director of International Relations and European Affairs of the Regione del Veneto.

10. Follow-up to earlier Venice Commission Opinions

The Commission will be informed on follow-up to its previous Opinions (see document [\(CDL\(2025\)011\)](#)):

- Andorra – Opinion on the Law on the creation and functioning of the Ombudsman ([CDL-AD\(2022\)033](#));
- Kyrgyzstan – Opinion on the draft amendments to the Code of Administrative Offences of the Kyrgyz Republic introducing penalties for insult and slander ([CDL-AD\(2024\)025](#));
- Türkiye – Opinion on the duties, competences and functioning of the criminal peace judgeships ([CDL-AD\(2017\)004](#)).

The Follow-up Opinion to previous Opinions on the High Judicial and Prosecutorial Council of Bosnia and Herzegovina will be examined under Item 13.

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.

- Kosovo, elections to the Assembly of Kosovo, 9 February 2025

12. Armenia

Draft Opinion on the draft amendments and supplements to the Law on Expropriation of Property for Ensuring Overriding Public Interests

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with Ms Srбуhi Galyan, Minister of Justice of Armenia, and Mr Tigran Dadunts, Deputy Minister of Justice of Armenia, and to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft Opinion ([CDL\(2025\)008](#)) (VD/ak) on the draft amendments and supplements to the Law on Expropriation of Property for Ensuring Overriding Public Interests in Armenia ([CDL-REF\(2025\)014](#)), drawn up on the basis of comments by Mr Knežević, Mr Pinelli, Mr Velaers and Mr Voyatzis. This Opinion was requested by the Minister of Justice of Armenia on 22 January 2025.

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.

13. Bosnia and Herzegovina

[Item moved to Saturday morning]

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

14. Hungary

(Postponed)

15. Kosovo

1. *Draft Opinion on the draft law on recruitment, performance evaluation, integrity control, and status of judges and prosecutors and the draft law amending the Law on the disciplinary liability of judges and prosecutors*

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with Mr Vigan Qorrolli, Deputy Minister of Justice of Kosovo, and to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft Opinion ([CDL\(2025\)003](#)) (NS/ML/TP/tp) on the draft law on recruitment, performance evaluation, integrity control, and status of judges and prosecutors and the draft law amending the Law on the disciplinary liability of judges and prosecutors, ([CDL-REF\(2025\)006](#) and [CDL-REF\(2025\)007](#)), drawn up by Mr Barrett, Mr Lángašek and Mr Pinelli. This Opinion was requested by the Minister of Justice of Kosovo on 3 December 2024.

The Opinion is prepared under the [Expertise Co-operation Mechanism](#) in the framework of the EU/CoE joint programme [Horizontal Facility for Western Balkans and Türkiye](#), co-funded by the European Union and the Council of Europe and implemented by the Council of Europe.

2. *Draft Opinion on the Law on the Judicial Council and the draft law amending and supplementing it*

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with with Mr Vigan Qorrolli, Deputy Minister of Justice of Kosovo, and to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft Opinion

([CDL\(2025\)007](#)) (ARP/TP/sm) on the Law on the Judicial Council and the draft law amending and supplementing it ([CDL-REF\(2024\)047](#) and [CDL-REF\(2025\)048](#)), drawn up on the basis of comments by Mr Gaspar, Ms Gerards and Mr Giovagnoli. This Opinion was requested by the Minister of Justice of Kosovo on 3 December 2024. The Joint Meeting of the Sub-Commissions on the Judiciary, the Rule of Law and Latin America will examine this draft Opinion at its meeting on 13 March 2025.

The Opinion is prepared under the [Expertise Co-operation Mechanism](#) in the framework of the EU/CoE joint programme [Horizontal Facility for Western Balkans and Türkiye](#), co-funded by the European Union and the Council of Europe and implemented by the Council of Europe.

3. *Draft Opinion on the draft amendments to the Law on the Academy of Justice*

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with with Mr Vigan Qorrolli, Deputy Minister of Justice of Kosovo, and to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft Opinion ([CDL\(2025\)004](#)) (TP/NS/ip) on the draft amendments to the Law on the Academy of Justice of Kosovo ([CDL-REF\(2024\)049](#)), drawn up on the basis of comments by Ms Kiener, Ms O'Toole and Mr Karlo Tuori (Honorary President, Expert). This Opinion was requested by the Minister of Justice of Kosovo on 3 December 2024.

The Opinion is prepared under the [Expertise Co-operation Mechanism](#) in the framework of the EU/CoE joint programme [Horizontal Facility for Western Balkans and Türkiye](#), co-funded by the European Union and the Council of Europe and implemented by the Council of Europe.

24. Exchange of views with the President of the Conference of Constitutional Jurisdictions of Africa

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with Mr Luke Malaba, Chief Justice of Zimbabwe and President of the Conference of Constitutional Jurisdictions of Africa (CJCA), on the work of the Conference of Constitutional Jurisdictions of Africa and potential avenues for its co-operation with the Venice Commission.

13:00-14:30

Lunch break

14:30-16:00

Exchange of views

Discussion and adoption of Opinions on individual countries

16. Exchange of views with the President of the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO)

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with Mr David Meyer, President of the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) on the update of the Rule of Law Checklist.

17. Kyrgyzstan

1. *Draft Opinion on the draft amendments to the Code of Offences on the compulsory transfer of offenders in a state of intoxication for emergency drug treatment*

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with Mr Aiaz Baetov, Minister of Justice of Kyrgyzstan and Mr Zhanarbek Akaev, Member of the Kyrgyzstan Parliament, and to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft Opinion ([CDL\(2025\)013](#)) (ML/as) on the draft amendments to the Code of Offences on the compulsory transfer of offenders for emergency drug treatment of Kyrgyzstan ([CDL-REF\(2025\)011](#)), drawn up on the basis of comments by

Ms Deskoska, Mr Gaspar and Mr Jorg Pont (Expert, Venice Commission). This Opinion was requested by the Minister of Justice of Kyrgyzstan on 21 January 2025.

2. Opinion on the draft amendments to the Law on Protection and Defence from Domestic Violence and to the Code of Offences

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with Mr Aiaz Baetov, Minister of Justice of Kyrgyzstan and Mr Zhanarbek Akaev, Member of the Kyrgyzstan Parliament from Kyrgyzstan, and to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft Opinion ([CDL\(2025\)012](#)) (SGM/LG/as) on the draft amendments to the Law on Protection and Defence from Domestic Violence and to the Code of Offences ([CDL-REF\(2025\)010](#)), drawn up on the basis of comments by Ms O'Toole, Mr Sørensen and Ms Lisa Gormley (Expert, Venice Commission). This Opinion was requested by the Minister of Justice of Kyrgyzstan on 21 January 2025. The Joint Sub-Commission on Fundamental Rights, Non-Discrimination, and the Protection of National Minorities will examine this draft Opinion at its meeting on 13 March 2025.

18. Republic of Moldova

Draft Opinion on the draft law on the Constitutional Court

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with Ms Veronica Mihailov-Oraru, Minister of Justice of the Republic of Moldova, and to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft Opinion ([CDL\(2025\)014](#)) (VD/is) on the draft law on the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Moldova ([CDL-REF\(2025\)001](#)), drawn up on the basis of comments by Ms Barić, Mr Bussjager and Mr Philip Dimitrov (former member Bulgaria, Expert). This Opinion was requested by the Minister of Justice of the Republic of Moldova on 6 November 2024.

The 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.

16.00-16:15

Coffee break

16:15-18:00

Discussion and adoption of Opinions on individual countries

19. Peru

Draft Opinion on the draft amendment to Article 99 of the Constitution of Peru concerning the accountability of members of election management bodies

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with Ms Carmen Patricia Juárez Gallegos, First Vice President of the Congress of Peru and Mr Aaron Oyarce Yuzzelli, Member of the Plenary of the National Election Board, and to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft Opinion ([CDL\(2025\)005](#)) (SGM/SK/as) on the draft amendment of Article 99 of the Constitution of Peru concerning the accountability of members of election management bodies ([CDL-REF\(2025\)008](#)), drawn up by Mr Bustos Gisbert, Mr Darmanović, Mr Kask, Ms Milašič and Mr Newman. This Opinion was requested by the Chair of the National Electoral Board of Peru on 5 August 2024. The Sub-Commissions on the Judiciary, the Rule of Law and Latin America will examine this draft Opinion at their joint meeting on 13 March 2025 and the Council for Democratic Elections will also examine this draft Opinion at its meeting on 13 March 2025.

20. Romania

Draft Opinion on the Emergency Ordinance regarding the merger of the 2024 elections for the European Parliament and for the local authorities

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with Mr Mihnea Claudiu Drumea, Secretary General of the Romanian Government, and to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft Opinion ([CDL\(2025\)020](#)) (PG/sd) on the Emergency Ordinance regarding the merger of the 2024 elections for the European Parliament and for the local authorities of Romania ([CDL-REF\(2025\)009](#)), drawn up on the basis of comments by Ms Deskoska, Mr Frendo and Ms Pabel. This Opinion was requested by the President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe on 11 March 2024. The Council for Democratic Elections will examine the draft Opinion at its meeting on 13 March 2025.

19:30	<i>Dinner at la Scuola Grande di San Giovanni Evangelista</i>
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Saturday 15 March 2025

9:00-10:30	<i>Discussion and adoption of Opinions on individual countries Reports</i>
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13. Bosnia and Herzegovina

Draft Follow-up Opinion to previous Opinions on the High Judicial and Prosecutorial Council

The Commission is invited to hold an exchange of views with Mr Željko Bogut, Secretary of the Ministry of Justice of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft Follow-Up Opinion ([CDL\(2025\)002](#)) (MS/mg) to previous Opinions on the High Judicial and Prosecutorial Council of Bosnia and Herzegovina (see documents [CDL-AD\(2024\)009](#), [CDL-AD\(2021\)015](#) and [CDL-REF\(2024\)045](#)), drawn up on the basis of comments by Ms Baricová, Mr Kuijjer and Mr Sørensen. This Opinion was requested by the Minister of Justice of Bosnia and Herzegovina on 21 November 2024. The Sub-Commissions on the Judiciary, the Rule of Law and Latin America will examine this draft Follow-up Opinion at their joint meeting on 13 March 2025.

The Follow-Up opinion is prepared under the [Expertise Co-operation Mechanism](#) in the framework of the EU/CoE joint programme [Horizontal Facility for Western Balkans and Türkiye](#), co-funded by the European Union and the Council of Europe and implemented by the Council of Europe.

21. Georgia

1. *Urgent Opinion on amendments to the Code of administrative offences and the Law on assemblies and demonstrations*

The Commission is invited to endorse the Urgent Opinion ([CDL-PI\(2025\)004](#)) (TP/es) on amendments to the Code of administrative offences and the Law on assemblies and demonstrations ([CDL-REF\(2025\)002](#), [CDL-REF\(2025\)003](#), [CDL-REF\(2025\)012](#) and [CDL-REF\(2025\)013](#)) drawn up on the basis of comments by Ms Deskoska, Ms Kiener and Ms Nussberger. This Urgent Opinion was requested by the President of the Parliamentary

Assembly of the Council of Europe on 23 December 2024 and was issued on 28 February 2025 in accordance with the Protocol on the preparation of Venice Commission urgent opinions ([CDL-AD\(2018\)019](#)).

2. *Draft Opinion on the amendments to the Organic Law of Georgia “Election Code of Georgia”, pertaining to local elections*

The Commission is invited to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft Opinion ([CDL\(2025\)010](#)) (ARP/PG/sm) on the amendments to the Organic Law of Georgia “Election Code of Georgia”, pertaining to local elections ([CDL-REF\(2025\)015](#)), drawn up by Mr Alivizatos, Mr Frenco and Ms Pabel. This Opinion was requested by the President of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities on 23 December 2024. The Council for Democratic Elections will examine this draft Opinion at its meeting on 13 March 2025.

22. North Macedonia

Draft Joint amicus curiae brief of the Venice Commission and the Directorate General of Democracy and Human Dignity (DGII) on international and European standards on the use of minority languages in public life and in the judicial procedures

The Commission is invited to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft *amicus curiae* brief of the Venice Commission and the Directorate General of Democracy and Human Dignity (DGII) ([CDL\(2025\)015](#)) (DF/msc) on International and European standards on the use of minority languages in public life and in the judicial procedures, drawn up on the basis of comments by Ms Bílková, Mr Kuijer, Mr Velaers and Mr Mattia Zeba (Expert, DGII). This joint *amicus curiae* brief was requested by the President of the Constitutional Court of North Macedonia on 20 November 2024. The Joint Sub-Commission on Fundamental Rights, Non-Discrimination, and the Protection of National Minorities will examine this draft *amicus curiae* brief at its meeting on 13 March 2025.

The joint *amicus curiae* brief is prepared under the [Expertise Co-operation Mechanism](#) in the framework of the EU/CoE joint programme [Horizontal Facility for Western Balkans and Türkiye](#), co-funded by the European Union and the Council of Europe and implemented by the Council of Europe.

23. Urgent Report on the cancellation of election results by Constitutional Courts

The Commission is invited to endorse the Urgent Report ([CDL-PI\(2025\)001](#)) (MJ/PG/mg) on the cancellation of election results by Constitutional Courts, drawn up on the basis of comments by Ms Cartabia, Mr Grabenwarter, Mr Holmøyvik, Mr Kask, Ms Milašiūtė and Ms Nussberger. This Urgent Report was requested by the President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe on 13 December 2024 and was issued on 27 January 2025 in accordance with the Protocol on the preparation of Venice Commission urgent opinions ([CDL-AD\(2018\)019](#)). The Council for Democratic Elections will examine this Urgent Report at its meeting on 13 March 2025.

10.30-10:45	Coffee Break
10:45-13:00	Discussion and adoption of Opinions on individual countries Reports Information on Conferences and Seminars General matters

25. Ukraine

Draft amicus curiae brief on alternative (non-military) service for the Constitutional Court of Ukraine

The Commission is invited to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft *amicus curiae* brief for the Constitutional Court of Ukraine ([CDL\(2025\)009](#)) (PG/ARP/sbm) on alternative (non-military) service, drawn up on the basis of comments by Mr Alivizatos, Ms Kiener, Mr Ojanen and Mr Paulus. This *amicus curiae* brief was requested by the Constitutional Court of Ukraine on 4 December 2024.

26. Recommendation 2289 (2025) of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe: elements for the reply by the Committee of Ministers

The Commission is invited to endorse the draft comments (CDL(2025)019) (DV/ip) prepared by the Secretariat on Recommendation 2289 (2025) ([Rec. 2289 - Recommendation - Adopted text](#)) of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe on “Addressing risks to human rights and the rule of law posed by mercenaries and private military and security companies: a call for comprehensive regulation”, to be transmitted to the Committee of Ministers in view of the preparation of its reply to that Recommendation.

27. Adoption of the Annual Report of Activities 2024

The Commission is invited to examine with a view to adoption the draft Annual Report of activities 2024 (CDL-RA(2024)001).

28. Report of the Joint Meeting of the Sub-Commissions on the Judiciary, the Rule of Law and Latin America (13 March 2025)

The Chair of the meeting might inform the Commission on the results and conclusions of the meeting held on 13 March 2025.

[Link to the annotated agenda](#)

29. Report of the Joint Meeting of the Sub-Commissions on Fundamental Rights, Non-Discrimination and the Protection of National Minorities (13 March 2025)

The Chair of the meeting might inform the Commission on the results and conclusions of the meeting held on 13 March 2025.

[Link to the annotated agenda](#)

30. Information on Conferences and Seminars

The Commission will be informed on the results and conclusions of past conferences and seminars and informed about forthcoming ones ([CDL\(2025\)016](#)).

31. Other business

32. Dates of the next sessions

143rd plenary session	13-14 June 2025 (online)
144th plenary session	9-10 October 2025 (35 th anniversary 11 October 2025)
145th plenary session	12-13 December 2025
146th plenary session	6-7 March 2026

147th plenary session	12-13 June 2026
148th plenary session	9-10 October 2026
149th plenary session	11-12 December 2026

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 Session.