



Strasbourg/Bucharest, 8 April 2016

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Or. Engl.

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

in co-operation with

**THE PERMANENT ELECTORAL AUTHORITY OF ROMANIA**

**1<sup>ST</sup> SCIENTIFIC “ELECTORAL EXPERT” DEBATES:**

**“ELECTORAL LAW AND NEW TECHNOLOGIES:  
LEGAL CHALLENGES”**

**Tuesday and Wednesday, 12-13 April 2016**

**Amphitheatre, Central University Library  
Bucharest**

**PROGRAMME**

**Tuesday, 12 April 2016**

**Morning session**

Moderated by: Mr Cristian Leahu, Director of Department of Legislation, Parliament Liaison and Election Dispute Resolution, Permanent Electoral Authority of Romania

09:00 - 09:30 **Introductory speech:**

Mr Csaba Tiberiu Kovacs, General Secretary, Permanent Electoral Authority of Romania

Mr Pierre Garrone, Head of Elections and Political Parties Division, Venice Commission, Council of Europe, Strasbourg, France

09:30 - 10:15

*“New Technologies: Inescapable but challenging”:*

Ms Ardita Driza Maurer, Lawyer, Consultant in Political Rights and New Voting Technologies, Switzerland

*Discussion*

10:15 - 11:00

*“Constitutional constraints”:*

Mr Robert Krimmer, Professor, Tallinn University of Technology, Estonia:

- Transparency and verifiability
- Secrecy of the vote
- How to ensure an equal approach to paper and electronic voting

*Discussion*

11:00 – 11:30

Coffee break

11:30 - 12:15

*“Stability and predictability of the electoral legislation, the necessary condition for fair elections”*, Mr Stefan Deaconu, Prof. PhD, Faculty of Law, University of Bucharest, Scientific Secretary, Constitutional Law Centre and Political Institutions

*Discussion*

12:15 – 13:00

*“Opportunities and threats in the new Romanian electoral legislation”*, Mr Todor Arpad, ProDemocracy Organisation, Romania

*Discussion*

13:00 – 14:30

Lunch

**Afternoon session**

- Moderated by: Mr Oliver Kask, Judge, Tallinn Court of Appeal, Estonia  
Vice-President of the Council for Democratic Elections
- 14:30 – 15:15 *“Electoral laws and constitutional requirements”*:  
Mr Tudorel Toader, PhD, Judge, Constitutional Court of Romania and  
Ms Marieta Safta, Lecturer, First assistant magistrate, Constitutional  
Court of Romania
- Discussion*
- 15:15 – 16:00 *“Legality, separation of powers, stability of electoral law: the impact of  
new voting technologies”*: Ms Ardita Driza Maurer
- Discussion*
- 16:00 – 16:30 Coffee break  
Photo of the group
- 16:30 – 17:15 *“Legislation on electoral law and new technologies in federal and  
regional states”*: Mr Uwe Serdült, Vice-Director, C2D – Centre for  
Research on Direct Democracy – University of Zurich, Switzerland
- Discussion*

**Wednesday, 13 April 2016**

**Morning session**

- Moderated by: Mr Pierre Garrone, Head of Division, Elections and Political Parties
- 9:00 – 9:45 *“International organisations and new voting technologies in the electoral  
field”*: Mr Gregor Wenda, Deputy Head of the Electoral Administration  
Department, Federal Ministry of the Interior, Austria
- Discussion*
- 09:45 – 10:30 *“The role of the judiciary in the oversight of electronic aspects of the  
voting process”*: Mr Jordi Barrat, Professor of Public Law, Rovira i Virgili  
University, Spain
- Discussion*
- 10:30 – 11:15 *“The new technologies - an instrument for making political party financing  
transparent”*: Mr Septimius Pârvu, Project Manager, Expert Forum,  
Romania
- Discussion*
- 11:15 – 11:45 Coffee break

11:45 – 13:00

**National case studies:**

- Germany: Mr Sebastian Seedorf, Deputy Head of Directorate, Federal Chancellery, Germany
- Austria: Mr Gregor Wenda
- Estonia: Mr Oliver Kask, Judge, Tallinn Court of Appeal, Estonia Vice-President of the Council for Democratic Elections

13:00 – 14:30

Lunch

**Afternoon session**

Moderated by:

Mr Csaba Tiberiu Kovacs, General Secretary, Permanent Electoral Authority of Romania

14:30 – 16:15

**National case studies (continued):**

- Romania: Ms Elena Simina Tănăsescu, Presidential Advisor, Presidential Administration of Romania
- Brazil: Mr Augusto Tavares Rosa Marcacini, Professor, São Paulo, Brazil

*Discussion*

16:15 – 16:45

Coffee break

16:45 – 17:15

**Conclusions:**

Mr Oliver Kask

Mr Csaba Tiberiu Kovacs