



Strasbourg, 19 September 2017

CDL(2017)028*

Engl. only

EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW
(VENICE COMMISSION)

PRESIDENT'S ACTIVITIES

From 16 May to 18 September 2017

**This document has been classified restricted on the date of issue. Unless the Venice Commission decides otherwise, it will be declassified a year after its issue according to the rules set up in Resolution CM/Res(2001)6 on access to Council of Europe documents.*

18 May - Karlsruhe

- Courtesy visit to Mr Andreas Vosskuhle, President of the Federal Constitutional Court of Germany.
- Opening speech at the 18th meeting of the Joint Council on Constitutional Justice.

1 June– Strasbourg

- Working lunch hosted by Ambassador Agnes Kertesz, Permanent Representative of Hungary to the Council of Europe on co-operation with the Venice Commission.

2 June– Strasbourg

- Meeting with Ambassador Corina Calugaru, Permanent Representative of Republic of Moldova to the Council of Europe in view of the June session of the Venice Commission.

16 June - Venice

- Television interview with Ms Lika Khurtsidze for the Georgian public broadcaster, on constitutional reform in Georgia.

19 June – Strasbourg

- Interview with Mr Raul Kiria for Front News International, on Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine.

21 June – Strasbourg

- Presentation of the Venice Commission's 2016 Annual Report of Activities and exchange of views with the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe.

26 June – Kiev

- Key note speech at the National Presentation of the Venice Commission's Rule of Law Checklist.
- Meeting with Ms Daria Kaleniuk and Anastasia Krasnosil'ska, Anti-corruption Action Centre on the initiative to establish an anti-corruption court.
- Exchange of views with Dr Andriy Parubiy, Speaker of the Verkhovna Rada on legislative work on rule of procedure, judiciary, anti-corruption and elections.
- Working dinner with Mr Oleskii Filatov Deputy Head of the Administration of the President of Ukraine, on cooperation with the Venice Commission.

29 June – Batumi, Georgia

- Attended the XVII Congress of the Conference of European Constitutional Courts and the Circle of Presidents.
- Meetings on the Constitutional Reform Process in Georgia with:
 - Mr Irakli Kobakhidze, Speaker of Parliament, Mr Giorgi Kvirikashvili, Prime Minister and Mr Mikheil Janelidze, Foreign Minister
 - Mr Giorgi Margvelashvili, President of Georgia
 - Mr Giorgi Abshishvili, Head of the Administration of the President, Mr David Rakviashvili, Secretary of National Security Council, Ms Ana Dolidze, Adviser to of the President of Georgia, and Ms Pikria Chikhradze, Adviser to the President on political issues

- Representatives of 16 opposition political parties

30 June – Batumi, Georgia

- Meeting with Ms Eka Gigauri, Transparency international and Mr Mikheil Benidze, International Society for Elections and Democracy on the role of the civil society in the constitutional reform process.

26 July – Italy

- Interview with Georgian television channel IMEDI on constitutional review in Georgia.

27 July – Italy

- Interview with Georgian public broadcaster on issues concerning Georgia and Poland.

9-10 August – Indonesia

- Attended the International Symposium on “Constitutional Courts as the Guardian of Ideology and Democracy in a Pluralistic Society”, organised in Solo by the Constitutional Court of Indonesia.
- Opening speech.
- Bilateral meetings with the Presidents of the Constitutional Courts of Indonesia, Malaysia and Turkey.

6 September – Strasbourg

- Interview with IMEDI television on the Georgian Constitutional process.

7 September – Strasbourg

- Courtesy visit by Ambassador Joao Maria Cabral, Permanent Representative of Portugal to the Council of Europe.
- Meeting with Mr Giorgi Vashadze, Chairman of the new Georgia Party, on Constitutional process in Georgia.

10 – 13 September – Vilnius

- Attended the 4th Congress of the World Conference on Constitutional Justice on “The Rule of Law and Constitutional Justice in the Modern World”.
- Opening and closing speeches.
- Press conference.