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EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW
(VENICE COMMISSION)

**XITH INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON CONSTITUTIONAL
REVIEW**

**ON THE “CONSTITUTIONAL VALUES IN
THEORY AND
JUDICIAL PRACTICE”**

Moscow, Russia

20-21 June 2008

SYNOPSIS

In co-operation with the Institute of Law and Public Policy, the German Foundation for International Legal Co-operation, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation and under the aegis of the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation, the Venice Commission organised the XIth International Forum on Constitutional Justice on the topic "*Constitutional Values in Theory and Judicial Practice*" in Moscow (20-21 June 2008).

The participants in the session of this Forum included Presidents, Justices and staff members of the Constitutional Courts of Russia, European countries and the countries of CIS, judges of the European Court of Human Rights as well as leading Russian and foreign experts in constitutional law and political science.

Discussions revolved, *inter alia*, around values as normative concepts; values and their reflection in the texts of constitutions, procedures and decisions and the legitimacy of value judgments in constitutional adjudication.

The discussions showed that constitutional values are not an abstract topic of legal theory, but that their application in the daily practice had an important impact on society.