



Strasbourg, 18 March 1998
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EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW

**34th Meeting
(Venice, 6-7 March 1998)**

SYNOPSIS

The Commission :

- decided, at the request of Mr Westendorp, the High Representative of the international community in Bosnia and Herzegovina, to study the questions
 - whether members of the Presidency needed to originate from the entity for which they were elected;
 - whether there should be two co-Presidents or only one Prime Minister in Bosnia and Herzegovina;
 - whether only the respective ethnic groups are constituent peoples of the entities or whether all three groups are constituent in both entities.
- adopted the report by Mr Scholsem on the Competence of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina in penal matters and decided to forward it to the the Minister of Justice of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- endorsed the draft law on the Ombudsman of the Republika Srpska and decided to forward it to the authorities of the Republika Srpska;
- adopted the second progress report on co-operation with Croatia and decided to forward it to the Parliamentary Assembly;
- agreed to provisional conclusions concerning the amendments to the Constitutional provisions of Albania and the suspension of the Albanian Constitutional Court which will serve as a basis

for further discussion with the Albanian authorities;

- decided, at the request of Mr Godo, Co-Chairman of the Albanian Parliamentary Commission for the drafting of the Constitution, to contact the Secretary General and the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe with a view to setting up a working group on real property in Albania in which the Commission would be represented;
- decided to transmit a consolidated version of the opinions on the organisation of Government and on the functioning of Ministries to the Romanian authorities;
- decided to appoint Messrs Maas Geesteranus, Robert and Suviranta as rapporteurs on the Bulgarian Law on the Statute of Parliamentarians and the draft Law on Lustration;
- endorsed the comments by Mr Owen on the draft electoral laws of Armenia by Messrs Yegorian and Sahakian;
- adopted the consolidated report on Internal Security Services and decided to forward it to the Parliamentary Assembly;
- adopted the opinion on the legal problems of the coexistence of the Convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms of the Community of Independent States and the European Convention on Human Rights and decided to forward it to the Parliamentary Assembly;
- decided to consider the question of transforming the Venice Commission into an enlarged partial agreement;
- adopted the Annual Report of Activities for 1997 and decided to forward it to the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe.

G. BUQUICCHIO

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