



COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Strasbourg, 6 May 2008

Study no. 469 / 2008

CDL(2008)044
Engl. only

EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW
(VENICE COMMISSION)

**CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS
FOR AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION**

QUESTIONNAIRE

1) Limits to constitutional amendments (CDL(2008)041)

Do provisions prohibiting the lowering of the level of protection of human rights render the procedure too rigid?

2) The possibility to adopt an entirely new constitution instead of amending it (CDL(2008)042)

- a) Does the possibility to adopt an entirely new constitution undermine constitutional stability?
- b) Does the re-enforced procedure need to be applied in respect of the new constitution?

3) The need for referendums (CDL(2008)042)

- a) Should far-reaching proposals for constitutional amendments be submitted to referendums as a general rule?
- b) Should the need for referendums be determined by Parliament or by the constitution itself?

4) The role of constitutional courts (CDL(2008)042)

Has practical experience shown that the mandatory consultation of the constitutional court renders the procedure too complex?

5) Rules of parliamentary procedure (CDL(2008)043)

Has recent experience shown that procedures are often too rigid?