



Strasbourg, 25 February 2013

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

**PRESIDENT'S ACTIVITIES**

**from 11 December 2012 to 25 February 2013**

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*\*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.*

**11 December 2012 – Strasbourg**

- Meeting with Ms Mara Marinaki, Managing Director for Global and Multilateral Affairs Issues at the European External Action Service on co-operation with the Venice Commission.
- Meeting with Mr Stavros Lambrinidis, European Union Special Representative for Human Rights on co-operation with the Venice Commission.

**18 December 2012 – Strasbourg**

- Lunch with Mr Mikheil Saakashvili, President of Georgia

**19 December 2012 – Strasbourg**

- Meeting with Mr Arbi Abid, Second Vice-President of the National Constituent Assembly of Tunisia, Mrs Kalthoum Badreddine, President of the General Legislation Committee and representatives of Political Parties on the constitutional process in Tunisia and the electoral system.
- Interview with Samanta Agro for ANSA on the Arab Spring.
- Courtesy visit by Mr Hamzayev Almaz, Ambassador of Kazakhstan in Belgium

**20 December 2012 – Strasbourg**

- Interview with Mrs Bianca Toma for Adevarul on the Venice Commission opinion on Romania

**21 January 2013 – Strasbourg**

- Attending the address by Mr Mikheil Saakashvili, President of Georgia, to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

**22 January 2013 – Strasbourg**

- Working meeting with Mr Jean-Marie Heydt, President, and Mr Cyril Ritchie, member of the International non-governmental Organisations Conference (INGO) on co-operation with the Venice Commission on freedom of association
- Working meeting with Ms Caterina Bolognese, Head of Council of Europe Office in Georgia on the preparation of the visit to Tbilisi.
- Courtesy visit by Mr Yevgen Perelygin, new Ukrainian Ambassador to Rome.

**23 January 2013 – Strasbourg**

- Interview with Mrs Milica Bogdanovic for Vijesti, on multiple presidential terms in Montenegro.

**25 January 2013 – Strasbourg**

- Interview with Mrs Nino Zhizhilashvili for the Georgian TV Maestro on legislative and constitutional developments in Georgia
- Working lunch with a Moroccan delegation headed by Mr Mohamed Aitaazizi, Director of Cooperation and General Affairs in the Ministry of Solidarity, Women, Family and Social Development.
- Interview with Mr Bahadir Dilek for Cumhuriyet Daily on the constitutional reform process in Turkey.

- Attending the Solemn Hearing of the European Court of Human Rights for the inauguration of the Judicial Year.

### **30-31 January 2013 – Tbilisi**

- Official visit to Georgia to discuss on-going and future co-operation with the Venice Commission.
- Working meetings with: Mr Mikheil Saakashvili, President of Georgia; Mr D. Usupashvili, Speaker; Mr B. Ivanishvili, Prime Minister; Mrs T. Tsulukiani, Minister of Justice, as well as Mr G. Lordkipanidze and Mr Baramidze, Deputy Ministers; Mr D. Zalkaliani, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs; Mr A. Petriashvili, Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic integration; Mr P. Zakareishvili, Minister of reintegration; Mr G. Papuashvili, President of the Constitutional Court; Mr K. Kublashvili, President of the Supreme Court; Representatives of the parliamentary majority and minority.
- Visit to the High School of Justice
- Press conference for written and TV media

### **1 February 2013 – Strasbourg**

- Courtesy visit by Mr V. Egorov, new Deputy Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the Council of Europe

### **5 February 2013 – Kiev**

- Official visit to Ukraine to discuss Venice Commission co-operation in the constitutional reform process, judiciary, prokuratura and electoral law.
- Meetings with Mr V. Yanukovich, President of Ukraine, Mr L. Kravchuk, President of the Constitutional Assembly, and members of the coordinating bureau of the Constitutional Assembly, Mr V. Rybak, Speaker of the Verkhovna Rada.

### **14-15 February 2013 – Ankara**

- Address on the Turkish constitutional process at the 71<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Joint Parliamentary Committee Turkey – EU.
- Meeting with the Turkish High Council of Judges and Prosecutors
- Meeting with Mr Cemil Çiçek, Speaker of the Grand National Assembly
- Meeting with Mr Kilicdaroglu, Chairman of the Republican People's Party (CHP)
- Interview on the constitutional revision process with Ms Gözde Nurdonat for Today's Zaman and Ms Sevil Küçükkoşum for Hürriyet Gazetecilik

### **22 February 2013 – Strasbourg**

- TV Interview with Mr Kayhan Karaca for NTV on co-operation with Turkey in the constitutional field.
- Interview with Mr Secuk Gultasli for Today's Zaman on co-operation with Turkey
- Meeting with the Myanmar Human Rights Commission on possible co-operation with the Venice Commission

### **25 February 2013 – Strasbourg**

- Meeting with Mr V. Egorov, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the Council of Europe, on co-operation with the Venice Commission