



Strasbourg, 26 November 2004

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**Or. fr.**

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

**11<sup>th</sup> MEETING**  
**OF THE COUNCIL FOR DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS**  
**(Venice, 2 December 2004 at 2 p.m.)**

**DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA**

**1. Adoption of the agenda**

The Council is invited to adopt its agenda as it appears in the present document.

**2. Electoral rules and affirmative action for national minorities**

The Council is invited to adopt the revised version of the report on electoral rules and affirmative action for national minorities, drawn up by Ms Lazarova Trajkovska (CDL-EL(2004)020rev).

**3. Law on local elections in Romania**

The Council is invited to adopt the draft opinion on the law on local elections in Romania (CDL-EL(2004)027; cf. CDL(2004)115), drawn up on the basis of comments by Messrs van Dijk and Mifsud Bonnici.

**4. Revision of the Armenian Electoral Code**

The Secretariat will inform the Council on progress of work on the Armenian electoral code.

**5. Restrictions to the right to vote**

The Council is invited to examine the comments by Ms Lazarova Trajkovska and Mr Matscher (CDL-EL(2004)022 and CDL-EL(2004)023), on restrictions to the right to vote, with a view to the adoption of a consolidated report at the next meeting.

**6. Declaration of principles and code of conduct for international election observers**

The Council is invited to adopt the comments by Mr Masters (CDL-EL(2004)026) on the declaration of principles for international election observation and code of conduct for international election observers (CDL-EL(2004)025).

**7. “Vota” database: revised thesaurus**

The Council is invited to adopt the revised thesaurus for the “Vota” database (CDL-EL(2004)021).

**8. Croatia**

Mr Hjörtur Torfason is invited to inform the Council of the developments in co-operation with Croatia, in particular the seminar which took place in Zagreb on 18-19 November 2004.

**9. Ukraine**

Mr Sanchez Navarro will inform the Council about the Venice Commission’s participation in the observation of the Presidential elections in Ukraine.

#### **10. Participation of political parties in the electoral process**

The Secretariat will present to the Council proposals for activities relating to the participation of political parties in the electoral process (see CDL-EL(2004)024).

#### **11. Questionnaires for election observers**

The Secretariat will inform the Council on progress of work concerning questionnaires for election observers, following the adoption of a provisional version of these questionnaires during the last meeting (CDL-EL(2004)014rev).

#### **12. Co-operation with the Inter-Parliamentary Union**

The Secretariat will inform the Council of the co-operation with the Inter-Parliamentary Union, in particular the Conference which took place in Geneva on 12-13 November 2004 on the criteria for free and fair elections.

#### **13. European conference of electoral management bodies**

The Secretariat will inform the Council on progress of the preparation for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Conference of electoral management bodies, which will take place in Strasbourg on 10-11 February 2005.

#### **14. Media monitoring during election observation missions**

Mr Masters will inform the Council about the work on media monitoring during election observation missions.

#### **15. Future activities**

The Council is invited to examine possible future activities :

- *Recommendations on electoral law and electoral administration*

Recommendations could be drawn up for :

- Serbia (OSCE/ODIHR will prepare a first draft)
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Ukraine
- Kosovo
- Georgia

These recommendations should in principle be drawn up in co-operation with OSCE/ODIHR.

- *Venice Commission participation in election observation missions in accordance with item 15 of the agreement with the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe*

Forthcoming assistance missions should take place during 2005 in the following States: Moldova, Albania, Kyrgyzstan, with the provision that the Parliamentary Assembly organise election observation missions to these countries.

Members are invited to make proposals for future activities. It is recalled that Mr Micallef has proposed a study on the role of locally elected representatives at the electoral period during national elections. Mr Annus proposes a study on the cases for cancellation of elections.

**16. Date of the next meeting**

It is proposed to hold the next meeting on Thursday, 10 March 2005 in the morning.