



Strasbourg, 20 November 2013

CDL-EL-OJ(2013)004ann
Or. Engl.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW
(VENICE COMMISSION)

46th MEETING
OF THE COUNCIL FOR DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS

Venice, 5 December 2013 at 10 a.m.

DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda

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

2. Communication by the Secretariat

The Secretariat will inform the Council on:

- long-term assistance to the Central Electoral Commission of Georgia, with a view to the elections of 27 October 2013 (1 October-1 November 2013);
- the Venice Commission's participation in the 6th Conference of the Global Elections Organization (GEO) and the Inaugural Assembly of the Association of World Electoral Management Bodies (A-WEB) (Seoul, 15-17 October 2013);
- the 3rd intercultural workshop on democracy "Political Parties – key factors in the political development of democratic societies" aimed at representatives of national parliaments and academics from the Arab world (Bucharest, 18-19 October 2013);
- the agreement concluded with the Electoral Tribunal of the Federal Judiciary of Mexico on the "VOTA" database (Mexico City, 23 October 2013);
- the International Congress on the implementation of international human rights treaties in national legislation, focusing in particular on electoral rights, which took place in Mexico City on 23-25 October 2013;
- assistance to the observation mission of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, in the context of the Presidential election in Georgia on 27 October 2013;
- the Venice Commission's participation in an International Conference on Political Party and Campaign Financing in "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" (Skopje, 31 October 2013);
- the visit of a Venice Commission delegation to Bulgaria (13-14 November 2013) and the forthcoming drawing up of an opinion on the draft new Electoral Code of Bulgaria;
- the Venice Commission's participation in a Round Table on the electoral reform in Ukraine (Kyiv, 14 November 2013); at its October session the Commission adopted a joint opinion with the OSCE/ODIHR on draft amendments to Legislation on the Election of People's Deputies of Ukraine ([CDL-AD\(2013\)026](#));
- the Seminar on "Election observation and Electoral Commissions" organised in the framework of the Eastern Partnership Facility Programme of the European Union, in Strasbourg on 25-26 November 2013;
- the request from the Speaker of the Moldovan Parliament for an opinion on the revision of the Electoral Code, proposed by the Liberal-Democratic Party;
- the work of the ISO concerning electoral organisations;
- progress of work on the study on the method of nominating candidates within political parties;
- progress of work on the study on open and closed lists.

For information on activities which took place between the last meeting of the Council (13 June 2013) and the Venice Commission's October session (11-12 October 2013) see document [CDL-EL\(2013\)010](#).

3. Misuse of administrative resources during electoral processes

At its December 2012 meeting, the Council examined a first draft of the report on this issue ([CDL\(2012\)075](#)). As a next step, the question was developed at a seminar organised on this subject in the framework of the Eastern Partnership Facility of the European Union which took place in Tbilisi in February 2013 (see document [CDL-EL\(2013\)007](#)) and then further discussed at a working group meeting which took place in Venice in June 2013. The revised text of the

draft report ([CDL\(2013\)053](#)), drawn up on the basis of comments by Messrs Gonzalez Oropeza, Hirschfeldt, Kalchenko and Kask is submitted to the Council for adoption before its submission to the Plenary Session.

4. Electoral lists and voters abroad

At the Council's June 2013 meeting, Mr Gross suggested studying the issue of electoral lists and voters residing *de facto* abroad. In particular, the question of people remaining on electoral lists as if they were still living in the country when in fact their habitual place of residence is abroad should be raised. The Secretariat has prepared a memorandum outlining the issues votstake ([CDL-EL\(2013\)011](#)). The Council is invited to examine whether it wishes to continue its work on this subject.

5. Election observation: Congress activities

Mr Wiene, newly appointed member of the Council representing the Congress will present the Congress's activities in the field of election observation.

6. Co-operation with OSCE/ODIHR

An exchange of views will take place with the representatives of the OSCE/ODIHR on the possibilities of future co-operation.

The opinions on the electoral law of Bulgaria and the Republic of Moldova will be prepared in co-operation with the OSCE/ODIHR.

7. Date of the next meeting

The Council is invited to fix the date of its next meeting for Thursday 20 March 2014 at 10 a.m.