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Or. Fr.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW
(VENICE COMMISSION)

**55th MEETING
OF THE COUNCIL FOR DEMOCRATIC
ELECTIONS**

Venice, 9 June 2016 at 10.00 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. Armenia – draft electoral code

Following a request from the Minister of Justice of Armenia, the Venice Commission and the OSCE/ODIHR prepared a preliminary joint opinion ([CDL-PI\(2016\)004](#)) on the draft electoral code of Armenia as of 18 April 2016 ([CDL-REF\(2016\)030](#)), on the basis of comments by Mr Barrett, Ms Biglino, Mr Tanchev, Mr Vollar (Venice Commission expert) and Mr Vashchanko (OSCE/ODIHR expert). Taking into account the urgency (the Constitution stipulates that the new election code enter into force on 1 June 2016 at the latest) and in accordance with the decision taken by the Venice Commission at its March 2016 session, the preliminary opinion has been sent to the Armenian authorities. The Council is invited to endorse the preliminary opinion.

3. Republic of Moldova – draft amendments to the Electoral Code

The Moldovan authorities requested the Venice Commission's opinion on the draft Amendments to the Electoral Code of the Republic of Moldova ([CDL-REF\(2016\)031](#) and [032](#)). The draft opinion by the Venice Commission and the OSCE/ODIHR ([CDL\(2016\)021](#)), drawn up on the basis of comments by Mr Gonzalez Oropeza, Mr Kask and Ms Bogushevich (OSCE/ODIHR expert) is submitted to the Council for adoption.

4. Ukraine – draft amendments to the electoral legislation

The Monitoring Committee of the Parliamentary Assembly requested the Venice Commission's opinion on the Amendments to the Law of Ukraine on election of people's deputies regarding the exclusion of candidates from party lists ([CDL-REF\(2016\)024](#) and [040](#)). The draft opinion ([CDL\(2016\)024](#)) is submitted to the Council for adoption.

5. Publication of the list of voters having participated in elections

The Council for Democratic Elections is invited to continue its reflection on the publication and the consultation of lists of voters having participated in elections, in the light of the revised note on this issue prepared by the Secretariat ([CDL-EL\(2016\)005](#)).

6. Electoral glossary

The Council is invited to examine the draft revised electoral glossary ([CDL-EL\(2016\)004](#)) with a view to its adoption.

7. Request for Observer status

The International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES) has requested observer status to the Council for Democratic Elections. The Council is invited to decide on this request.

8. Misuse of administrative resources during electoral processes and the role of local and regional elected representatives and public officials

In the broader framework of its political priorities to promote ethical conduct and combat corruption at the territorial level and, more specifically, further to its Resolution 382(2015) on „Criteria for Standing in Local and Regional Elections”, the Congress aims at complementing, from the local and regional perspective, the Joint Guidelines for Preventing and Responding to the Misuse of Administrative Resources during Electoral Processes” adopted by the Council of Democratic Elections and the Venice Commission in March 2016. The representative of the Congress will introduce this issue.

9. Communication by the Secretariat

Since the Council's March 2016 meeting the following activities, organised by the Venice Commission or in which the Venice Commission participated, have taken place in the field of elections and political parties:

- “1st electoral expert debates” (Bucharest, 12-13 April 2016) on “electoral law and new technologies”. The reports prepared for this Conference will be published in the review “Electoral expert” edited by the Permanent Electoral Authority of Romania. These “electoral expert debates” should take place every two years ; see the synopsis, [CDL-EL\(2016\)002syn](#);
- The 13th Conference of European Electoral Management Bodies (Bucharest, 14-15 April 2016) on the theme “new technologies in elections: public trust and challenges for electoral management bodies”; see the synopsis, [CDL-EL\(2016\)001syn](#);
- Conference on Media and Elections in Ukraine; challenges and possible solutions (Kyiv, 5 April 2016);
- International Workshop on women’s participation in elections (Jordan, Dead Sea, 19-21 April 2016);
- First meeting of the “Political finance community of practice” (Prague, 22 April 2016);
- Legal assistance to the Parliamentary Assembly delegation observing the early parliamentary elections in Serbia (24 April 2016);
- Meeting on electronic voting (Valletta, Malta, 4 May 2016);
- Forum on “Financing of political parties and electoral campaigns” (Mexico City, 5 May 2016);
- Round Table on “Electoral Standards and improvement of the Electoral Process in Belarus” (Minsk, 18 May 2016);
- International Conference on electoral reform in Ukraine (Kyiv, 26-27 May 2016);
- International Conference on the role of courts and the protection of political rights (Mexico City, 26-27 May 2016);
- International Conference co-organised by the Parliamentary Assembly, on political parties and the parliament (Amman, 30 May 2016).

The following activities are already planned from now to the next meeting of the Council:

- Meeting of the group on electoral reform in Ukraine (Strasbourg, 20-21 June 2016)
- Conference on “Media and Elections” with the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (Berlin, 4 July 2016) ;
- Workshop on political funding (Kyiv, 6 July 2016) ;
- 25th ACEEEEO Conference (Tirana, 21-23 September 2016) ;
- Legal assistance to the Parliamentary Assembly delegation observing the parliamentary elections in Bulgaria (3 October 2016);

- Legal assistance to the Parliamentary Assembly delegation observing the parliamentary elections in Georgia (8 October 2016).

The Secretariat will give further details on the above activities at the request of the members.

10. Co-operation with the OSCE/ODHIR

An exchange of views will take place with the representatives of the OSCE/ODIHR on the possibilities of future co-operation. The OSCE/ODIHR is invited to inform the Council on its current and future activities in the electoral field.

11. Date of the next meeting

The Council is invited to fix the date of its next meeting for Thursday 13 October 2016 at 10.00 a.m.