



Strasbourg, 29 September 2016

CDL-EL-OJ(2016)003ann
Or. Fr.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW
(VENICE COMMISSION)

**56th MEETING
OF THE COUNCIL FOR DEMOCRATIC
ELECTIONS**

Venice, 13 October 2016 at 11.00 am

DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda

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

2. Publication of lists of voters having participated in elections – Interpretative declaration of the Code of good practice in electoral matters

At its meeting in June 2016, the Council continued its discussions on the issue of publication of lists of voters having participated in elections. A draft interpretative declaration on this issue ([CDL\(2016\)034](#)) is submitted to the Council for adoption.

3. Armenia – draft electoral code

In June 2016, the Council for Democratic Elections and the Venice Commission approved a first preliminary joint opinion of the Venice Commission and the OSCE/ODIHR on the draft Electoral Code of Armenia as of 18 April 2016 ([CDL-AD\(2016\)019](#)). During the session, the Armenian Minister of Justice requested a new joint opinion on the final version of the amended Electoral Code, particularly in light of the extent to which these new amendments addressed the recommendations presented in the first joint opinion. Given the urgency (the local elections taking place in October 2016), the Commission authorised the rapporteurs to prepare a new preliminary joint opinion and send it to the Armenian authorities before the October session, which was done in July. The Council is invited to endorse the second preliminary joint opinion of the Venice Commission and the OSCE/ODIHR ([CDL-PI\(2016\)008](#)) on the draft electoral code of Armenia as amended on 30 June 2016 ([CDL-REF\(2016\)044](#); see also [CDL-REF\(2016\)042](#) and [CDL-REF\(2016\)043](#)), drawn up on the basis of comments by Mr Barrett, Ms Biglino, Mr Tanchev and Mr Vollan (Venice Commission expert) as well as experts from the OSCE/ODIHR.

4. “The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” – Electoral Code

Following the request of the Parliamentary Assembly's Monitoring Committee, the Council is invited to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft joint opinion ([CDL\(2016\)030](#)), by the Venice Commission and the OSCE/ODIHR, on the electoral Code of "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" as amended on 9 November 2015 ([CDL-REF\(2016\)020](#)), drawn up on the basis of comments by Mr Darmanovic, Mr Kask, Mr Vilanova Trias and Mr Donald Bisson (OSCE/ODIHR expert).

5. Communication by the Secretariat

Since the Council's June 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:

- Meeting with representatives of the working group on electoral reform of Ukraine (Strasbourg, 22-23 June 2016);
- Conference on “Media freedom as a cornerstone for democratic elections” (Berlin, 4 July 2016);
- Political Party Expert Workshop (Kyiv, 6 July 2016);
- Second meeting of the Political Finance Community of Practice (London, 19 July 2016);

- International Conference on electoral justice, organised on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the Mexican Electoral Court (Mexico City, 24-26 August 2016);
- Long-term assistance to the Central Election Commission of Georgia (8 August to 16 September 2016), and training on electoral disputes (Tbilisi, 17-18 September 2016);
- Legal assistance to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe's delegation observing Parliamentary elections in Belarus (11 September 2016);
- Training seminar on electoral dispute resolution (Chisinau, 13-15 September 2016);
- Legal assistance to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe's delegation observing Parliamentary elections in Jordan (20 September 2016);
- The 25th Conference of the ACEEEO (Tirana, 21-23 September 2016);
- Legal assistance to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe's delegation observing Parliamentary elections in Morocco (7 October 2016);
- Legal assistance to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe's delegation observing Parliamentary elections in Georgia (8 October 2016).

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

- Legal assistance to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe's delegation observing Parliamentary elections in Montenegro (16 October 2016);
- Regional Conference on "Follow-up to the recommendations of international Election Observation Missions in the countries of the Eastern Partnership" (Venice, 24-25 October 2016);
- Legal assistance to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe's delegation observing Parliamentary elections in Moldova (30 October 2016);
- Legal assistance to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe's delegation observing Parliamentary elections in Bulgaria (6 November 2016);
- Annual meeting of experts on political parties (Warsaw, 11-12 December 2016);
- Legal assistance to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe's delegation observing Parliamentary elections in "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" (11 December 2016).

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

6. 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.

7. Date of the next meeting

The Council is invited to fix the date of its next meeting for Thursday 8 December 2016 at 10.00 am.