



Strasbourg, 28 November 2018

CDL-EL-OJ(2018)004ann
Or. Engl.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW
(VENICE COMMISSION)

**64th MEETING
OF THE COUNCIL FOR DEMOCRATIC
ELECTIONS**

Venice, 13 December 2018 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. Turkey - Amendments to the electoral legislation and related “Harmonisation laws” adopted in March and April 2018

Following the request of Sir Roger Gale, Chairman of the Monitoring Committee of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, the Council is invited to examine, with a view to adoption, the draft joint opinion by the Venice Commission and the OSCE/ODIHR ([CDL\(2018\)034](#)) on Amendments to the electoral legislation and related "harmonisation laws" adopted in March and April 2018 ([CDL-REF\(2018\)031](#), [032](#), [033](#) and [034](#)) drawn up on the basis of comments by Mr Kask, Mr Holmøyvik and Mr Vilanova Trias as well as OSCE/ODIHR experts.

3. Study - Social media in Elections

The Venice Commission has been asked to prepare a study on social media during electoral processes, in co-operation with the Information Society Department of DGI Human Rights and Rule of Law of the Council of Europe. Mr José Luis Vargas Valdez will inform the Council about the advancement of the work on this study.

4. Report - Updating guidelines to ensure fair referendums in Council of Europe member States

Dame Cheryl Gillan, Member of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy of the Parliamentary Assembly, will present her report (Doc [AS/Pol\(2018\)18](#)).

5. Communication by the Secretariat

The following activities took place between the 63rd and 64th meetings of the Council for Democratic Elections:

- Legal assistance to the Parliamentary Assembly delegation observing presidential elections in Georgia (first round), 28 October 2018;
- participation in the OSCE/ODIHR Seminar on election observation (Vienna, Austria, 30 October 2018);
- participation in the XIIIth Inter-American Meeting of Electoral Authorities (Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, 7-9 November 2018);
- Cetinje Parliamentary Forum on Election Laws (Cetinje, Montenegro, 8-9 November 2018);
- participation in the Forum on Voter Registration in Arab countries (Cairo, Egypt, 13-14 November 2018);
- participation in the International Conference on the draft election code (Bukhara, Uzbekistan, 16-17 November 2018);
- Legal assistance to the Parliamentary Assembly delegation observing presidential elections in Georgia (second round), 28 November 2018;
- participation in the conference on electoral justice and Sub-Commission on Latin America (Mexico City, Mexico, 29-30 November 2018);
- participation in a workshop on the misuse of administrative resources (Chisinau, Republic of Moldova, 30 November 2018);
- participation in the meeting of the global network on electoral justice (Mexico, 3-4 December 2018);

- legal assistance to the Parliamentary Assembly delegation observing early parliamentary elections in Armenia, 9 December 2018.

6. Future activities

The Venice Commission will participate in:

- Legal assistance to the Parliamentary Assembly delegation observing parliamentary elections in the Republic of Moldova, 24 February 2019.

7. 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 OSCE/ODIHR is invited to inform the Council on its current and future activities in the electoral field.

8. Date of the next meeting

The Council is invited to fix the date of its next meeting for Thursday, 14 March 2019 at 10.00 am.