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EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW (VENICE COMMISSION)

in co-operation with

THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT OF LITHUANIA

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

LAW AND FACT IN CONSTITUTIONAL JURISPRUDENCE

> 30 June -1 July 2005 Vilnius, Lithuania

PROGRAMME

THURSDAY, 30 JUNE 2005

8.30 Registration of participants

9.00–9.30 **Opening of the Conference:**

Welcoming speech by **Mr. Egidijus Kūris**, President of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Lithuania

Opening speech by **Mr. Gianni Buquicchio**, Secretary of the Venice Commission

Address by Mr. Artūras Paulauskas, President of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania

Chairs: Ms Toma Birmontiene, Judge of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Lithuania) and Mr. Artur Mauricio, President of the Constitutional Court of the Portuguese Republic

Reports

9.30–9.50 THE RELATION BETWEEN LAW AND FACTS IN CASE-LAW, AND THE LIMITS OF INVESTIGATION OF LAW AND FACTS IN CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

Prof. Anthony Bradley, Professor Emeritus, Edinburgh University (United Kingdom), Substitute Member of the Venice Commission

9.50–10.10 WHEN INVESTIGATION OF LAW IS INTERTWINED WITH INVESTIGATION OF FACTS: LIMITS OF INVESTIGATION OF PETITIONS IN CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW

Mr. Egidijus Kūris, President of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Lithuania

10.10–10.30 LAW AND FACTS IN CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW AS PERFORMED BY COURTS OF GENERAL JURISDICTION AND/OR ADMINISTRATIVE COURTS

Prof. Eivind Smith, University of Oslo, Norway

10.30–11.00 Coffee break

Reports

11.00–11.20 INVESTIGATION OF FACTS IN CONSTITUTIONAL CASES WHEN CONDUCTING ABSTRACT REVIEW OF LEGAL ACTS

Mr. Marek Safjan, President of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Republic of Poland

11.20-11.40 VERIFICATION OF THE VALIDITY OF LAW MAKING PROCEDURES

Mr. Stasys Stačiokas, Judge of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Lithuania

11.40–12.00 DETERMINATION AND INVESTIGATION OF FACTS IN CONSTITUTIONAL CASES INITIATED BY INDIVIDUAL COMPLAINTS

Mr. Arpad Erdei, Vice-President of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Hungary

12.00-14.00 Lunch

Chairs: Mr. Stasys Stačiokas, Judge of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Lithuania and Prof. Anthony Bradley, Edinburgh University, United Kingdom

Continuation of the Conference

14.00 - 15.30 Discussions

15.30–16.00 Coffee break

16.00–17.00 **Continuation of discussions**

FRIDAY, 1 JULY 2005

Chairs: Mr. Egidijus Kūris, President of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Lithuania and Mr. Marek Safjan, President of the Constitutional Tribunal of the Republic Poland

Reports

9.00–9.20 LAW AND FACTS IN CASES PERTAINING TO ELECTORAL COMPLAINTS

Prof. Richard Ghevontian, Paule Cezanne University, France

9.20–9.40 LAW AND FACTS IN CASES PERTAINING TO CONSTITUTIONALITY OF ACTIVITIES OF POLITICAL PARTIES

Mr. Stanislav Balik, Justice of the Constitutional Court of the Czech Republic

9.40–10.00 LAW AND FACTS IN CONSTITUTIONAL CASES PERTAINING TO IMPEACHMENT OF HIGH OFFICIALS

Prof. Egidijus Jarašiūnas, Mykolas Romeris University, Lithuania, former Judge of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Lithuania

- 10.00–10.30 Discussions
- 10.30–11.00 Coffee break
- 11.00–12.30 **Continuation of discussions**
- 12.30–13.00 Concluding remarks by:
 - Mr. Gianni Buquicchio, Secretary of the Venice Commission

Mr. Egidijus Kūris, President of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Lithuania