



Strasbourg, 17 March 2025

CDL-PL-PV(2025)001syn
Or. Engl.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW
(VENICE COMMISSION)

142nd PLENARY SESSION

Venice, 14-15 March 2025

SYNOPSIS

The Venice Commission:

- Held an exchange of views with Ms Srбуhi Galyan, Minister of Justice of **Armenia**, and adopted the Opinion on the draft amendments and supplements to the Law on Expropriation of Property for Ensuring Overriding Public Interests in Armenia;
- Held an exchange of views with Mr Željko Bogut, Secretary of the Ministry of Justice of **Bosnia and Herzegovina**, and adopted the Follow-Up Opinion to previous Opinions on the draft Law on the High Judicial and Prosecutorial Council of Bosnia and Herzegovina, previously examined by the Sub-Commissions on the Judiciary, the Rule of Law and Latin America at their joint meeting on 13 March 2025;
- Adopted the Opinion on the amendments to the Organic Law “Election Code of **Georgia**” pertaining to local elections, previously approved by the Council for Democratic Elections at its meeting on 13 March 2025;
- Endorsed the Urgent Opinion on amendments to the Code of administrative offences and the Law on assemblies and demonstrations of Georgia;
- Held an exchange of views with Mr Zhanarbek Akaev, Member of the Parliament of **Kyrgyzstan**, and with Mr Aiaz Baetov, Minister of Justice of Kyrgyzstan, and adopted:
 - The Opinion on the draft amendments to the Code of Offences of Kyrgyzstan on the compulsory transfer of offenders for emergency drug treatment;
 - The Opinion on the draft amendments to the Law on Protection and Defence from Domestic Violence and to the Code of Offences of Kyrgyzstan, previously examined by the Sub-Commissions on Fundamental Rights, on Non-Discrimination and on the Protection of National Minorities at their joint meeting on 13 March 2025;
- Held an exchange of views with Mr Vigan Qorrolli, Deputy Minister of Justice of **Kosovo**, and adopted:
 - The Opinion on the draft law on recruitment, performance evaluation, integrity control, and status of judges and prosecutors and on the draft law amending the Law on the disciplinary liability of judges and prosecutors;
 - The Opinion on the Law on the Judicial Council and on the draft law amending and supplementing it, previously examined by the Sub-Commissions on the Judiciary, the Rule of Law and Latin America at their joint meeting on 13 March 2025;
 - The Opinion on the draft amendments to the Law on the Academy of Justice;
- Was informed that the examination of the Opinion on certain provisions of Act XVII of 2024 on the Amendment of Laws related to Justice Matters of **Hungary** had been postponed to the next session;
- Held an exchange of views with Ms Veronica Mihailov-Moraru, Minister of Justice of the **Republic of Moldova** and adopted the Opinion on the draft law on the Constitutional Court;
- Adopted the joint amicus curiae brief of the Venice Commission and the Directorate General of Democracy and Human Dignity for the Constitutional Court of **North Macedonia** on International and European standards on the use of minority languages in public life and in the judicial procedures; previously examined by the Sub-Commissions on Fundamental Rights, on Non-Discrimination and on the Protection of National Minorities at their joint meeting on 13 March 2025;

- Held an exchange of views with Ms Carmen Patricia Juárez Gallegos, First Vice President of the Congress of **Peru** and Mr Aaron Oyarce Yuzzelli, Member of the Plenary of the National Election Board, and adopted the Opinion on the draft amendment of Article 99 of the Constitution of Peru concerning the accountability of members of election management bodies, previously approved by the Council for Democratic Elections at its meeting on 13 March 2025 and examined by the Sub-Commissions on the Judiciary, the Rule of Law and Latin America at their joint meeting on 13 March 2025;
- Held an exchange of views with Mr Mihnea Claudiu Drumea, Secretary General of the Government of **Romania**, and adopted the Opinion on the Emergency Ordinance regarding the merger of the 2024 elections for the European Parliament and for the local authorities, previously approved by the Council for Democratic Elections at its meeting on 13 March 2025;
- Adopted the *amicus curiae* brief for the Constitutional Court of **Ukraine** on alternative (non-military) service;
- Endorsed the urgent report on the **cancellation of election results by Constitutional Courts**;
- Endorsed the comments on Recommendation 2289 (2025) of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe on “Addressing risks to human rights and the rule of law posed by **mercenaries and private military and security companies**: a call for comprehensive regulation”;
- Adopted the **Annual Report of Activities for 2024**;
- Authorised the preparation of two urgent opinions on the draft constitutional amendments and on the draft decree on the modalities of the elections in **Haiti**;
- Held an exchange of views with Mr David Meyer, President of the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) on the update of the Rule of Law Checklist;
- Held an exchange of views with Mr Luke Malaba, Chief Justice of Zimbabwe and President of the **Conference of Constitutional Jurisdictions of Africa (CJCA)**, on the work of the Conference of Constitutional Jurisdictions of Africa and potential avenues for its co-operation with the Venice Commission;
- Was informed on follow-up to the Opinion on the Law on the creation and functioning of the Ombudsman in **Andorra**; to the Opinion on the draft amendments to the Code of Administrative Offences of Kyrgyzstan introducing penalties for insult and slander; and to the Opinion on the duties, competences and functioning of the criminal peace judgeships in **Türkiye**;
- Was informed on participation as legal advisor in the **electoral observation missions** of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe;
- Was informed about the results and conclusions of the **conference** held in Venice on 12 March 2025 on: Lessons learned and Learning Lessons: the Venice Commission’s Experience in Elaborating Transnationally Valid Constitutional Standards, co-organised with the International Association of Constitutional Law;
- Held an exchange of views with representatives of the **Committee of Ministers**, the **Parliamentary Assembly** and the **Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe**;
- Held an exchange of views with the representative of the **Regione Veneto**;

- Was informed on the results and conclusions of the meeting of the **Council for Democratic Elections**, held on 13 March 2025;
- Confirmed the dates of the next Plenary Sessions as follows: 13-14 June 2025 (exclusively online); 9-10 October 2025; 12-13 December 2025; 6-7 March 2026; 12-13 June 2026; 9-10 October 2026; 11-12 December 2026;
- Confirmed that the **celebration of the Commission's 35th Anniversary** will take place in Venice on 11 October 2025; a ceremony will also take place in Strasbourg on 4 June 2025.

The Opinions for Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo and the *amicus curiae* brief for North Macedonia were prepared under the [Expertise Co-operation Mechanism](#) in the framework of the EU/CoE joint programme [Horizontal Facility for Western Balkans and Türkiye](#), co-funded by the European Union and the Council of Europe and implemented by the Council of Europe. The Opinions for Armenia and the Republic of Moldova were prepared under the [Quick Response Mechanism \(QRM\)](#) in the framework of the EU/CoE joint programme [Partnership for Good Governance](#), co-funded by the Council of Europe and the European Union and implemented by the Council of Europe.