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EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW
OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE
(VENICE COMMISSION)

143rd PLENARY SESSION

Online, 13-14 June 2025

SYNOPSIS

The Venice Commission:

- Held an exchange of views with Mr Ernesto Muñoz, Undersecretary of Justice, Ministry of Justice and Human Rights of **Chile**, and adopted the Opinion on the draft Constitutional amendments in respect of the judiciary of Chile, previously examined by the Sub-Commissions on the Judiciary, on the Rule of Law and on Latin America at their joint meeting on 12 June 2025;
- Held an exchange of views with Mr Remi Bénard, Project Manager for Foreign Affairs and Defense, General Secretariat of the Government of **France**, and adopted the Final Opinion on Article 49.3 of the Constitution of France;
- Held an exchange of views with Mr Patrick Saint-Hilaire, President of the Provisional Electoral Council of the Republic of **Haiti**, and adopted the Opinion on the draft referendum decree of Haiti, previously approved by the Council for Democratic Elections at its meeting on 6 June 2025;
- Held an exchange of views with Mr Róbert Répássy, Secretary of State, Ministry of Justice of **Hungary** and adopted:
 - The opinion on the constitutional and legislative amendments concerning the requirements to be appointed Prosecutor General and Constitutional Court judge, as well as the appointment and retirement of judges in Hungary;
 - The opinion on Act LXXIX of 2024 of Hungary, amending certain laws relating to elections, previously approved by the Council for Democratic Elections at its meeting on 6 June 2025; and
 - The opinion on certain provisions of Act XVII of 2024 of Hungary concerning the power of the Minister of Justice to have access to judicial and prosecutorial decisions as well as related documents, previously examined by the Sub-Commissions on the Judiciary, on the Rule of Law and on Latin America at their joint meeting on 12 June 2025;
- Held an exchange of views with Mr Mihai Gheorghies, Senior Advisor, Committee on Legal Affairs, Appointments and Immunities, Secretariat of the Parliament of the **Republic of Moldova**, and adopted the Joint Follow-up Opinion of the Venice Commission and the Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law (DGI) of the Council of Europe on the draft law on the mechanism of trying corruption and corruption-related cases (previously the draft law on the anti-corruption judicial system) of the Republic of Moldova, previously examined by the Sub-Commissions on the Judiciary, on the Rule of Law and on Latin America at their joint meeting on 12 June 2025;
- Held an exchange of views with Ms Liliana Nicolaescu-Onofrei, Chair, Parliamentary Committee on Culture, Education, Research, Youth, Sports and Mass Media of the Republic of Moldova, and adopted the Opinion on the legislative reforms on mass media regulation: the draft law on mass media, the draft law amending the Audiovisual Media Services Code, and the draft law amending the Law on advertising of the Republic of Moldova, previously examined by the Sub-Commissions on Constitutional Justice and on Fundamental Rights at their joint meeting on 12 June 2025;
- Held an exchange of views with Mr Gungaa Bayasgalan, Chief Justice of the Constitutional Court of **Mongolia**, and Mr Odonkhuu Munkhsaikhan, Justice of the Constitutional Court of

Mongolia, and adopted the Opinion on the draft laws on the Constitutional Court (Tsets) and the Procedure of the Constitutional Court of Mongolia, previously examined by the Sub-Commissions on Constitutional Justice and on Fundamental Rights at their joint meeting on 12 June 2025;

- Held an exchange of views with Mr Bojan Božović, Minister of Justice of **Montenegro**, and adopted the Opinion on some questions relating to the procedure of early termination of the mandate of Constitutional Court judges due to age limits in Montenegro, previously examined by the Sub-Commissions on Constitutional Justice and on Fundamental Rights at their joint meeting on 12 June 2025;
- Held an exchange of views with Ms Jelena Pejović, Acting Director General of the Directorate for State Administration, Ministry of Public Administration of Montenegro, and adopted the Follow-up Opinion to the opinion on the draft Law on the Government of Montenegro;
- Held an exchange of views with Ms Nikolina Mikeska Kostadinovska, Head of Unit, Ministry of Justice of **North Macedonia**, and adopted the Opinion on the draft Law on the Judicial Council of North Macedonia, previously examined by the Sub-Commissions on the Judiciary, on the Rule of Law and on Latin America at their joint meeting on 12 June 2025;
- Adopted the **Amicus curiae brief for the Inter-American Court of Human Rights on democracy** as a human right, as a means for social, political and economic development and the effective exercise of human rights, or as both;
- Endorsed the Brief to the Constitution Committee of the House of Lords of **the United Kingdom** in relation to its inquiry into the Rule of Law, previously issued on 14 May 2025 in accordance with the Protocol on the preparation of Venice Commission urgent opinions;
- Decided to seek leave to make **a third-party intervention** before the European Court of Human Rights in the case of GYLA and Others v. Georgia (no. 31069/24);
- Instructed the Secretary to respond to the request of the Committee of Ministers for input to prepare its reply to Recommendation 2292(2025) on Foreign Interference: a Threat to Democratic Security in Europe;
- Was informed on follow-up to the Joint Opinion of the Venice Commission and the OSCE/ODIHR on the amendments to the Constitution of 30 July 2020 and to the Electoral Code of 5 October 2020 of **Albania**; to the Amicus curiae brief on certain questions related to the Law on Confiscation of Property of Illicit Origin of **Armenia** and to the Opinion on the Draft Law N°08/L-121 on the State Bureau for verification and confiscation of unjustified assets of **Kosovo**;
- Elected, in accordance with Article 6, paragraph 1bis of the Commission's revised Rules of Procedure, the five members of the **Committee of Wise Persons** proposed by the Enlarged Bureau to prepare the December 2025 elections;
- Was informed on the results and conclusions of the meeting of the **Council for Democratic Elections**, held on 6 June 2025;
- Designated Mr Srdjan Darmanović, member in respect of Montenegro, as **candidate for the position of Vice-President of the Council for Democratic Elections** in the elections to be held in October 2025;
- 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 following **conferences**: the 20th European **Conference of Electoral Management Bodies on stability of electoral law** 15-16 April Vilnius, Lithuania; the **international seminar** on "Legal Certainty and the Quality of Law: Concepts, Challenges, and Comparative Perspectives", 6-7 May, Rabat, Morocco; and the **international conference** "The Venice Commission 1990-2025. Taking stock of 35 years for democracy through law", 15-16 May, Milan, Italy.
- 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**;
- Confirmed the dates of the next Plenary Sessions as follows: 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.

The Opinions for Montenegro and 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 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.