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

144th PLENARY SESSION

Venice, 9-10 October 2025

SYNOPSIS

The Venice Commission:

- Adopted the *amicus curiae* brief for the Constitutional Court of **Armenia** on the compatibility of Article 236 of the Criminal Code of Armenia with the European standards on legal certainty, previously examined by the Sub-Commissions on Fundamental Rights and on Democratic Institutions at their joint meeting on 9 October 2025;
- Adopted the Opinion on the Law on Registration of Foreign Agents, the amendments to the Law on Grants and other Laws relating to “foreign influence” of **Georgia**, previously examined by the Sub-Commissions on Fundamental Rights and on Democratic Institutions at their joint meeting on 9 October 2025;
- Held an exchange of views with Mr Blerim Sallahu, Acting Minister of Justice of **Kosovo**, and adopted the Follow-Up Opinion to the Opinions concerning amendments to the Law on the Prosecutorial Council of Kosovo;
- Held an exchange of views with Mr Róbert Répássy, Secretary of State from **Hungary**, and adopted the Opinion on the compatibility with international human rights standards of the fifteenth amendment to the Fundamental Law of Hungary;
- Held an exchange of views with Mrs Aleksandra Deanoska Trendafilova, President of the working group, Ministry of Justice of **North Macedonia**, and adopted the Joint Opinion of the Venice Commission and the Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law (DGI) of the Council of Europe on the Public Prosecutor’s Office and on the Council of Public Prosecutors of the Republic of North Macedonia;
- Held an exchange of views with Ms María del Carmen Alva Prieto, President of the High-Level Multiparty Commission on the Reform of the Justice Administration System of the Congress of **Peru**, and adopted the Opinion on the proposed reforms concerning the Public Prosecutor's Office of Peru;
- Held an exchange of views with Mr Dalibor Jurášek, Adviser from the Office of the Government of the **Slovak Republic**, and:
 - endorsed the Urgent Opinion on the draft amendments to the Constitution of the Slovak Republic, previously issued on 24 September 2025, pursuant to Article 14a of the Venice Commission’s Revised Rules of Procedure and in accordance with the Protocol on the preparation of Venice Commission urgent opinions; and
 - adopted the Opinion on Law No. 109/2025 amending the Law “on non-profit organisations providing services of general interest” and other related laws of the Slovak Republic, previously examined by the Sub-Commissions on Fundamental Rights and on Democratic Institutions at their joint meeting on 9 October 2025;
- Held an exchange of views with Mr José María Fernández Seijo from the General Council for the Judiciary of **Spain**, Mr Pedro Rollán Ojeda, President of the Senate of Spain, Mr Joaquín Martínez Salmerón, President of the Justice Committee of the Congress of Deputies of Spain, and Ms Camino Vidal Fueyo, Director General of Constitutional Affairs and Legal Coordination, Ministry of Presidency, Justice and Relations with Parliament, and adopted the Opinion on the manner of election of the judicial members of the General Council of the Judiciary of **Spain**, previously examined by the Sub-Commissions on the Judiciary and the Rule of Law at their joint meeting on 9 October 2025;

- Adopted the Joint Opinion of the Venice Commission and the Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law (DGI) of the Council of Europe on the draft amendments on disciplinary procedures against judges, declarations of integrity, and other procedures of **Ukraine**;
- Adopted the **amicus curiae brief for the European Court of Human Rights in the case of Georgian Young Lawyers' Association and Others v. Georgia** (no. 31069/24) on regulation of foreign influence;
- Endorsed the **Urgent amicus curiae brief for the European Court of Human Rights in Grande Oriente d'Italia v. Italy** on Procedural Guarantees in the exercise of powers by Parliamentary Inquiry Committees, previously issued on 19 September 2025, pursuant to Article 14a of the Venice Commission's Revised Rules of Procedure and in accordance with the Protocol on the preparation of Venice Commission urgent opinions;
- Adopted the Report on the **impact of the pre-trial detention of mayors on the exercise of local democratic governance**;
- Endorsed the **compilation on out-of-country voting**; previously endorsed by the Council for Democratic Elections;
- Was informed about progress in the preparation of the **Updated Rule of Law Checklist**;
- Held an exchange of views with Mr Michael O'Flaherty, **Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe**;
- Held an exchange of views with Ms Ana Gallego, **Director-General for Justice and Consumers of the European Commission**, on the state of democracy, justice and the rule of law in the European Union;
- Was informed on the follow-up to the Opinion on the implementation by Parliament of Constitutional Court decisions in **Albania** and to the Opinion on the draft law on the Constitutional Court of the **Republic of Moldova**;
- Was informed on the participation of the Venice Commission as legal advisor in the **electoral observation missions** of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe;
- Was informed by the **Committee of Wise Persons** of the procedure which will be followed for the elections of December 2025, as approved by the Enlarged Bureau at its meeting on 9 October 2025;
- 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 8 October 2025;
- Confirmed the dates of the next Plenary Sessions as follows: 12-13 December 2025; 6-7 March 2026; 12-13 June 2026; 9-10 October 2026; 11-12 December 2026.

The Follow-Up Opinion for Kosovo was 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 *amicus curiae* brief for Armenia was 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.