



Strasbourg, 9 December 2024

CDL-PL-PV(2024)004syn
Or. Engl.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW
(VENICE COMMISSION)

141st PLENARY SESSION

Venice, 6-7 December 2024

SYNOPSIS

The Venice Commission:

- Held an exchange of views with Ms Elisa Spiropali, Speaker of Parliament of **Albania**, and adopted the Opinion on the implementation by Parliament of Constitutional Court decisions in Albania, previously examined by the Sub-Commissions on Constitutional Justice, Democratic Institutions and Latin America at their joint meeting on 5 December 2024;
- Held an exchange of views with Dr Frinel Joseph, Counselor-President, member of the Presidential Transitional Council of the Republic of **Haiti**, Mr Enex Jean-Charles, President of the Steering Committee of the National Conference on Constitutional Reform, Mr Patrick Saint-Hilaire, President of the Provisional Electoral Council and with Mr Luis Almagro, Secretary General of the **Organization of American States**, and adopted the Final Opinion on possible constitutional and legislative solutions to conduct future electoral processes in Haiti, previously approved by the Council for Democratic Elections at its meeting on 5 December 2024 and examined by the Sub-Commissions on Constitutional Justice, Democratic Institutions and Latin America at their joint meeting on 5 December 2024;
- Held an exchange of views with Mr Dariusz Mazur, Deputy Minister of Justice of **Poland**, and with Mr Slawomir Patyra, expert, and adopted the Opinion on the draft constitutional amendments concerning the Constitutional Tribunal and two laws on the Constitutional Tribunal of Poland, previously examined by the Sub-Commissions on Constitutional Justice, Democratic Institutions and Latin America at their joint meeting on 5 December 2024;
- Held an exchange of views with Ms Maja Popović, Minister of Justice of **Serbia**, and adopted the Opinion on the draft Law on the Judicial Academy and on draft amendments to the Law on Judges and the Law on the Public Prosecutor's Office of Serbia, previously examined by the Sub-Commissions on the Judiciary and the Rule of Law at their joint meeting on 5 December 2024;
- Held an exchange of views with Mr Ozan Muzaffer Köstü, Deputy Head of the Human Rights Department of the Ministry of Justice of **Türkiye**, and adopted the Opinion on the composition of the Council of Judges and Prosecutors of Türkiye and the procedure for the election of its members, previously examined by the Sub-Commissions on the Judiciary and the Rule of Law at their joint meeting on 5 December 2024;
- Adopted the **Amicus curiae Brief for the European Court of Human Rights** in the case of *Staderini and Others v. Italy* on the **stability of electoral legislation and some features of a mixed electoral system**, previously approved by the Council for Democratic Elections at its meeting on 5 December 2024;
- Adopted the **Amicus curiae Brief for the European Court of Human Rights** in the case of *Shevchuk v. Ukraine* on **standards on the disciplinary rules concerning presidents and judges of constitutional courts**, previously examined by the Sub-Commissions on Constitutional Justice, Democratic Institutions and Latin America at their joint meeting on 5 December 2024;
- Adopted the **Report on electoral observers as human rights defenders**, previously approved by the Council for Democratic Elections at its meeting on 5 December 2024;
- Adopted the **Interpretative declaration to the Code of good practice in electoral matters on digital technologies and artificial intelligence**, as well as its explanatory report, previously approved by the Council for Democratic Elections at its meeting on 5 December 2024;
- Adopted the **Report on a rule of law and human rights compliant regulation of spyware**;

- Held an exchange of views with Lord Hermer KC, **Attorney General of the United Kingdom**, on possible democratic responses to the current challenges to the rule of law;
- Held an exchange of views with Mr Luis Almagro, **Secretary General of the Organization of American States**, on developments in the Americas and co-operation with the Commission;
- Held an exchange of views with Mr Stanislav Secrieru, National Security Advisor, representative of the President of the **Republic of Moldova**, on constitutional developments and the recent presidential elections in the Republic of Moldova;
- Held an exchange of views with Mr Theodoros Rousopoulos, **President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe**; Elected Ms Olesia Stamate (Republic of Moldova) as **Substitute Member of the Council for Democratic Elections** until December 2025;
- Was informed on **constitutional developments in Japan**;
- Was informed on participation as legal advisor in the **electoral observation missions** of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe in the **Republic of Moldova**, presidential elections and constitutional referendum, 20 October 2024; **Georgia**, parliamentary elections, 26 October 2024; and **Bulgaria**, early parliamentary elections, 27 October 2024;
- Was informed about the **conferences** on: Joint Council on Constitutional Justice (JCCJ) meeting and international conference on "Respect for the Judgments of Constitutional Courts" (Yerevan, 14-15 November 2024); "The Rule of Law and private powers" (Madrid, week of 25 November 2024);
- 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 Ms Annalisa Bisson, Director, Directorate for International Relations of the **Regione Veneto**;
- Was informed on the results and conclusions of the meeting of the **Council for Democratic Elections**, held on 5 December 2024;
- Was informed that the annual meeting between the Commission's Enlarged Bureau and the **Presidential Committee of the Parliamentary Assembly** of the Council of Europe would be held on 7 December 2024;
- Held an exchange of views with representatives of the **Association of Former Members**, in particular on the update of the Rule of Law Checklist;
- Confirmed the dates of the next Plenary Sessions as follows: 14-15 March 2025; 13-14 June 2025; 10 October 2025; 12-13 December 2025;
- Confirmed that the **celebration of the Commission's 35th Anniversary** will take place on 11 October 2025; a ceremony will also take place in Strasbourg on 4 June 2025.

The opinion for Serbia 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.