



COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Strasbourg, 4 June 2007

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EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW

(VENICE COMMISSION)

71st PLENARY SESSION
(Venice, 1-2 June 2007)

SYNOPSIS

The Commission

- was informed on **Morocco's** accession to the Commission as well as on the intention of **Algeria** to deposit forthwith a request for accession;
- adopted the report on the democratic **control of security services** in Council of Europe member States, at the request of the Committee of Ministers;
- adopted the opinion on **video-surveillance** by private operators in the public and private spheres and by public authorities in the private sphere and human rights protection;
- adopted the report on **media coverage of election campaigns**;
- endorsed the reporting members' comments on the law on legalisation, urban planning and integration of unauthorised buildings in **Albania** and requested them to prepare a consolidated *amicus curiae* opinion to be forwarded to the Constitutional Court of that country;
- endorsed the comments by the reporting members and by OSCE/ODIHR on the latest amendments to the electoral code of **Armenia** and requested them to prepare a consolidated opinion to be forwarded to the Armenian authorities;
- endorsed the reporting members' comments on the draft law on the State register of voters of **Croatia** and requested the Secretariat to prepare with OSCE/ODIHR a consolidated opinion to be forwarded to the Croatian authorities ;
- was informed by the President of the Supreme Administrative Court of **Finland** on recent constitutional developments in that country and discussed progress of work on the evaluation of the Finnish Constitution by the Commission;
- adopted the opinion on the possible reform of the ombudsman institution in **Kazakhstan**;
- was informed on the constitutional situation in **Kyrgyzstan**;
- endorsed the reporting member's comments on the draft law on political parties in **Moldova**;

- was informed by Mr Ranko Krivokapic, Speaker of the Parliament of **Montenegro**, on the developments with respect to the adoption of a new Constitution in that country, and adopted the interim opinion on the draft Constitution of Montenegro;
- was informed on possible co-operation with respect to the implementation of the Constitution of **Serbia**;
- adopted the opinion on the draft law on the People's advocate of Kosovo;
- adopted the opinion on the draft Law on the parliamentary opposition in **Ukraine**;
- adopted the opinion on the law on amendments to certain laws concerning the status of Deputies of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and of Local Councils of Ukraine (introducing an "imperative mandate");
- held an exchange of views with Ms Nataliya Bohasheva and Mr Yurii Kliuchkovskiy, members of Parliament of Ukraine, and adopted the joint opinion of the Venice Commission and OSCE/ODIHR on the draft law on the State register of voters of Ukraine;
- adopted the opinion on the legislation on early elections in Ukraine, at the request of the Parliamentary Assembly;
- was informed on the follow-up to the opinion on a possible solution to the issue of decertification of police officers in **Bosnia and Herzegovina**, and to the opinions on the draft law on the judiciary and the draft law on the status of judges in **Ukraine**;
- was informed on recent constitutional developments in **Romania**;
- was informed about co-operation with the Ibero-American Conference of Constitutional Justice;
- was informed on the activities of the NGO Grouping Civil Society and Democracy in Europe and discussed possible co-operation with it ;
- was informed on the results and conclusions of the meeting of the Council for Democratic Elections of March 2007;
- was informed on the results and conclusions of the meeting of the Joint Council on Constitutional Justice;
- fixed the dates of the next sessions as follows: 19-20 October and 14-15 December 2007 and for 2008 as follows: 14-15 March; 13-14 June; 17-18 October; 12-13 December.