

# Press Release

## Council of Europe Press Division

Ref: 349a07

Tel: +33 (0)3 88 41 25 60

Fax: +33 (0)3 88 41 39 11

[pressunit@coe.int](mailto:pressunit@coe.int)

internet: [www.coe.int/press](http://www.coe.int/press)



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## Venice Commission examines democratic control of security services and video surveillance during its 71<sup>st</sup> plenary session

Strasbourg, 29.05.2007 – The Council of Europe's European Commission for Democracy through Law (the "Venice Commission") will be meeting in Venice on 1 and 2 June (*Scuola Grande di San Giovanni Evangelista*).

On the session agenda are the examination of a number of important legal texts from different countries and the adoption of several opinions. The Commission will, for example, adopt a report on the democratic control of security services in Council of Europe member States that was prepared at the request of the Committee of Ministers. Another important point concerns the study on the video surveillance by private operators in the public and private spheres and by public authorities in the private sphere.

Other points submitted for adoption:

- the draft opinion on the draft Constitution of Montenegro;
- the draft opinion on early elections in Ukraine;
- the draft joint opinion of the Venice Commission and OSCE/ODIHR on the latest amendments to the electoral code of Armenia.

The Commission will also endorse the opinion on the draft law on the People's advocate of Kosovo.

The Commission will further examine with a view to adoption, the draft opinion on the draft Law on the parliamentary opposition in Ukraine, as well as the draft 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").

In May 2007, Morocco became a new member State of the Venice Commission.

All the adopted texts are public and will be available on the Commission's website: [www.venice.coe.int](http://www.venice.coe.int).

### Press contact on the spot:

Roberto Tumbarello, Council of Europe press correspondent in Italy  
Mobile: +39 335 69 38 216, [rtumbare@tin.it](mailto:rtumbare@tin.it)

To receive our press releases by e-mail, contact : [Council.of.Europe.Press@coe.int](mailto:Council.of.Europe.Press@coe.int)

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