

Media Advisory

Directorate of Communication

Ref: MA144a09

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

Fax +33 (0)3 88 41 39 11

Internet: www.coe.int

e-mail: pressunit@coe.int



47 member States

Albania
Andorra
Armenia
Austria
Azerbaijan
Belgium
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Bulgaria
Croatia
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Denmark
Estonia
Finland
France
Georgia
Germany
Greece
Hungary
Iceland
Ireland
Italy
Latvia
Liechtenstein
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Malta
Moldova
Monaco
Montenegro
Netherlands
Norway
Poland
Portugal
Romania
Russia
San Marino
Serbia
Slovakia
Slovenia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
"The former Yugoslav
Republic of
Macedonia"
Turkey
Ukraine
United Kingdom

23.11.2009

Visit to Minsk by the Council of Europe's Director General of Democracy and Political Affairs

Dates: 30 November - 1 December

Place: Minsk (Belarus)

Description: Six months after the opening of the Council of Europe Information Point in Minsk, the Organisation's Director General of Democracy and Political Affairs, Jean-Louis Laurens, will be visiting Belarus for a series of meetings with the country's authorities and civil society.

On Tuesday 1 December at 10 am Mr Laurens will visit the State University for a discussion with students on the prospects for co-operation between the Council of Europe and Belarus at this juncture when the Organisation is celebrating its 60th anniversary - sixty years spent safeguarding and promoting human rights and democracy and seeking common responses to the social, cultural and legal challenges confronting its member states.

Set up to inform the citizens of Belarus about the activities of the Council of Europe and to propagate European values and standards, the Information Point was opened last June on the premises of the State University's Journalism Institute. Since its opening two awareness-raising campaigns on domestic violence against women and on the death penalty have been run in Belarus.

Mr Laurens will meet the press at the Crowne Plaza Hotel (13 Kirova St., Minsk) on **Tuesday 1 December at 5.45 pm.**

Contacts:

Strasbourg: Estelle Steiner, Press Officer, Tel. + 33 (0) 3 88 41 33 35, Mobile + 33 (0) 6 08 46 01 57, estelle.steiner@coe.int

Minsk: Natalia Dziarhai, Council of Europe Information Point (9 Kalvaryiskaya St., Minsk), Tel./fax: +375 17 259 70 76, dziarhai@bsu.by

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

A political organisation set up in 1949, the Council of Europe works to promote democracy and human rights continent-wide. It also develops common responses to social, cultural and legal challenges in its 47 member states.