Media Advisory

Directorate of Communication

Ref: MA015a10

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



23.02.2010

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

Malta
Moldova
Monaco
Montenegro
Netherlands
Norway
Poland
Portugal
Romania
Russia

Luxembourg

Russia
San Marino
Serbia
Slovakia
Slovenia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland

"The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" Turkey

Ukraine United Kingdom

New joint project in Turkey: "Enhancing the Role of the Supreme Judicial Authorities in respect of European Standards"

Date of the launching conference: 24 February 2010, 15.00

Place: Hotel Sheraton, Noktalı sokak, Ankara

Organised by the Council of Europe and the European Union, together with the Constitutional Court, the Court of Cassation, the Council of State and the High Council of Judges and Prosecutors of Turkey.

Description: The overall objective of this new Council of Europe / EU joint project is to enhance the role of the supreme judicial authorities in Turkey and to initiate changes in the normative framework of the rights and freedoms guaranteed by the European Convention on Human Rights and by the European Social Charter, in line with the *acquis communautaire*. The project will be implemented jointly by the Council of Europe and the Turkish supreme judicial authorities, namely the Constitutional Court, the Court of Cassation, the Council of State and the High Council of Judges and Prosecutors of Turkey.

The members and the Rapporteur-Judges of Turkish supreme judicial authorities will participate in round tables, conferences, study visits in different institutions throughout Europe and share their experiences with their colleagues from other European countries and institutions. The right to a fair trial; positive obligations under the right to life and the prohibition of torture; the right to freedom and security; freedom of expression; freedom of thought, conscience and religion; freedom of peaceful assembly; property rights; protection of the environment and the protection of social rights are among the main topics to be discussed.

With a total budget of 3 300 000 Euros, the project will run for 30 months, until July 2012.

The launching conference will be hosted by Haşim Kılıç, President of the Constitutional Court, Hasan Gerçeker, President of the Court of Cassation, Mustafa Birden, President of the Council of State, Sadullah Ergin, Minister of Justice, also in his capacity as President of High Council of Judges and Prosecutors of Turkey, together with Marja Ruotanen, Director of Cooperation of the Directorate General of Human Rights and Legal Affairs of the Council of Europe and Ambassador Mark Pierini, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to Turkey.

The conference will be open to the press.

More information

Contact in Ankara:

Mara Bottone, Programme Adviser, Council of Europe Directorate General of Human Rights and Legal Affairs, Tel. +33 (0) 6 61 14 94 15, Mara.Bottone@coe.int