

Media Advisory

Directorate of Communication

Ref: MA082a09

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

Strasbourg, 25.06.2009

The Council of Europe brings together judges and prosecutors from its 47 member states to prepare an opinion on their respective roles

Dates: 30 June and 1 July 2009

Lieu: Bordeaux (France)

Organised by the Council of Europe on the initiative of the Consultative Council of European Prosecutors (CCPE) and the Consultative Council of European Judges, in co-operation with the French legal service training college, the *Ecole nationale de la Magistrature française*.

Description: Judges and prosecutors from the 47 Council of Europe member states are to meet at the first European Conference of Judges and Prosecutors to discuss the respective roles of judges and prosecutors and the way they complement one another. Their discussions will contribute to the preparation of an opinion on this topic, to be adopted by the end of 2009.

The objective of the conference is to identify values shared by the two professions, which are separate but complementary, and the common principles that should underpin the status of judges and prosecutors, regardless of the system in which they work: British common law, the Russian *Prokuratura* or the French-style "Romano-Germanic" system.

While the independence of judges is undisputed and indisputable in any democratic society, the links between prosecutors and the Ministry of Justice are much more varied in nature, ranging from a total absence of a hierarchical relationship to more or less extensive subordination.

The issue of relations between judges and prosecutors is particularly important for the purposes of ensuring effective compliance with European standards in the field of justice, particularly the right to a fair trial and the principles of the separation of powers and the rule of law.

Practical information:

- The conference will take place at the Ecole Nationale de la Magistrature, Bordeaux (10, rue des Frères Bonie).
- A **press briefing** will take place on **Tuesday 30 June from 9 to 9.20 am, in the hall of the Ecole Nationale de la Magistrature**, with the participation of Jean-François Thony, Director of the Ecole Nationale de la Magistrature, and Philippe Boillat, Council of Europe Director General of Human Rights and Legal Affairs.

For further information, see <http://www.coe.int/ccje>

Contacts :

At the Ecole Nationale de la Magistrature, Bordeaux:

. Katia Saubignac, Press Relations Officer, Communication Department, tel. +33 (0)5 56 00 10 36

. Claire Keller, Head of the Communication Department, tel. +33 (0)5 56 00 10 22, mobile +33 (0)6 32 65 59 90

At the Council of Europe:

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

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