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15.09.2010

Constitutional reform in Georgia – visit by the Venice Commission

Dates: 16-17 September 2010

Place: Tbilisi, Georgia

Organised by the Venice Commission, the Council of Europe's advisory body of independent legal experts.

Background

In July 2009 the State Constitutional Commission requested the Venice Commission's assistance in the preparation of amendments to the Constitution. In the first place the Commission was requested to examine the chapter on local self-government ([link to the opinion](#) of March 2010). In May 2010 the draft constitutional amendments were finalised by the Constitutional Commission and subsequently forwarded to the Venice Commission.

In its preliminary comments of July 2010, the Venice Commission provided an overall positive assessment of the draft amendments but argued for further improvements to be made. During this visit the representatives of the Commission will notably clarify the proposals concerning the division of powers between the state institutions (the parliament, the president and the government).

The Commission is to discuss the draft opinion in plenary in Venice on 15 October 2010.

[Preliminary comments of the Venice Commission \(July 2010\)](#)
[Translation into Georgian provided by the Georgian authorities](#)

Description: A delegation of the Venice Commission will exchange views with major national stakeholders in the country.

The delegation is composed of Mrs Angelika Nussberger, German substitute member of the Venice Commission, Mr Sergio Bartole, Italian substitute member, Mr Thomas Markert and Ms Simona Granata-Menghini, Secretary and Deputy Secretary of the Venice Commission respectively.

Members of the Constitutional Commission and the Parliament, representatives of the parliamentary and non-parliamentary opposition and local NGOs will meet with the Venice Commission's delegation.

A press conference will take place at 17h00 on 17 September 2010, at the press centre of the Parliament.

Press contacts:

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