

Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe Permanent Council

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34th Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 34, Agenda item 4

DECISION No. 69

AGENDA, TIMETABLE AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL MODALITIES OF THE HUMAN DIMENSION SEMINAR ON THE RULE OF LAW

I. AGENDA

- 1. Opening of the Seminar by the Director of the ODIHR
- 2. Keynote speech
- 3. Discussion on the rule of law, including its constitutional foundations, implementation and practical measures
- 4. Summing up and closure of the Seminar

II. TIMETABLE AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL MODALITIES

- 1. The Seminar will open on Tuesday, 28 November 1995 at 3 p.m. in Warsaw. It will close on Friday, 1 December 1995.
- 2. All Plenaries and the Discussion Groups will be open.
- 3. Agenda items 1, 2, 3 and 4 will be dealt with in the Plenary. In addition, the closing Plenary, scheduled for Friday morning, will focus on practical suggestions for dealing with the issues and problems raised during the Discussion Groups.
- 4. Agenda item 3 will be dealt with in the Plenary, as well as in the two Discussion Groups:

DG1: The rule of law - the constitutional foundations

Topics may include:

- the independence of the judiciary;
- the relationship between the court and the legislature;
- the competence of the court to test the legality of decisions made by the administrative authority.

<u>DG2</u>: The rule of law - implementation and practical measures

Topics may include:

- modalities governing conditions for an independent body of lawyers;
- the issue of free legal aid; including its possible sources, such as public defenders, legal clinics and NGOs;
- the role of legal and judicial bodies in combating organized crime and corruption.
- 5. Meetings of the Plenary and Discussion Groups will take place according to the attached work programme.
- 6. An ODIHR representative will chair the Plenary Meetings.
- 7. The ODIHR will invite the Moderators to guide discussion in the Discussion Groups. They will be assisted by ODIHR representatives.
- 8. Standard OSCE rules of procedure and working methods will be applied at the Seminar.

WORK PROGRAMME

Working hours: 10 a.m.- 1 p.m.

3 p.m.- 6 p.m.

| | Tuesday 28 November | Wednesday 29 November | Thursday 30 November | Friday 1 December |
|-----------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Morning | | DG 1 (C) | DG 1 (P) | PL |
| | | DG 2 (P) | DG 2 (C) | 12 |
| Afternoon | PL | DG 1 (C) | DG 1 (P) | |
| | | DG 2 (P) | DG 2 (C) | |

PL - Plenary Meeting

P - Plenary Hall

DG - Discussion Group C - Conference Room

PC.DEC/69 7 September 1995 Annex

<u>Interpretative statement under paragraph 79 (Chapter 6) of</u> the Final Recommendations of the Helsinki Consultations

By the delegation of Turkey:

"Turkey has joined the consensus on the decision concerning the agenda and modalities of the Rule of Law seminar in a spirit of compromise and co-operation. The said seminar will offer an opportunity for legal experts to exchange views on the agenda items. At the same time, it is useful to keep in mind that different legal systems exist throughout the OSCE area. Turkey considers the reference to NGOs in the agenda as a possible source for free legal aid emanating from such organizations specialized in legal affairs as bar associations and as recognized by its judicial systems."