

# General Summing up of the proceedings and debates

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# What role does the Council play?

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- Probably no single European model possible at this stage
- However, it is important to give guidelines, to set common general principles by taking into account the cultural traditions

# What role does the Council play?

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- More and more countries move gradually towards a special organ which has the task to guarantee the independence of judiciary
- More important than the structure is the effectiveness of such organs
- Goals: independence, efficiency, but also responsibility of the judiciary

# What should be reflected in the composition of the Council?

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- Mostly it was agreed that there should be a mixed setup
- There should be a balanced setup with a reflection of social diversity

# What should be reflected in the composition of the Council?

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- Of course the setup depends on the tasks of the Council
- The appointment of the members needs further elaboration: should the judge-members be elected and should there be limits to the renewal of their term?

# Is the protection and promotion of the image of justice part of the Council's duties?

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- Yes!
- Image of justice; independence and at the same time responsibility
- Transparency – also in disciplinary matters(?)
- It is important to communicate (see also Opinion number 7 CCJE)

# Which duties must the Council take to serve the Community?

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- Power to appoint and/or propose judicial appointments
- Discipline and professional ethics

# Which duties must the Council take to serve the Community?

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- Budgetary matters and administration of the courts
- Training of judges
- The power to give opinions



# Points and suggestions for further elaboration

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- Increase the independence of the Council and similar bodies by guaranteeing their budget
- Clarify the tasks of the Council or similar bodies especially in disciplinary matters as well as the competence to give opinions
- Try to find some guidelines for the composition of the Council and similar bodies
- Ensure harmony between the composition of the Council and similar bodies and the civil society
- Strengthen the statute of the members of the Council or similar bodies

# Points and suggestions for further elaboration

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- Stress the importance of co-operation between the Council/similar bodies and the Council/similar bodies for administrative jurisdiction
- Stress the importance of co-operation between the Council/similar bodies and the Council/similar bodies of prosecutors
- Stress the importance of co-operation between the Council/similar bodies and the judges' associations
- Stress the importance of co-operation on European level

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**Good luck!**

