

EVALUATION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW (VENICE COMMISSION) (2022)



Evaluation objective

Evaluate the relevance, effectiveness and efficiency of the Venice Commission for the period 2016-2020 and assess its impact since it was established.

Methodology

120 interviews

148 respondents to 2 online surveys

5 case studies based on 3 field missions

2 plenary sessions observed

Desk research

6 case studies

Strengths of the Venice Commission

Relevance of its work

Highly regarded, widely recognised and plays an important role in the international field

Operates efficiently

Performs to a high standard despite modest resources

Impactful approach

Constructive and sensitive engagement with national authorities and other stakeholders

Issues to be addressed

Limited resources

With increasing demand for opinions, sustainability is at risk given current levels of resources

Transparency

Revise the working methods and procedures to help maximise impact

Limited capacity to measure impact over time

Improve monitoring of the implementation of recommendations

Recommendations

Clarify scope of work and review rules of procedure

Further align project management practices with PMM

Compile European legal standards in key thematic areas

Revise the process for the appointment of new members

Develop additional channels with civil society organisations

Review working methods to formalise and clarify processes and procedures

Strengthen internal and external communications efforts

Increase the dialogue-based and constructive approach with member states

Increase human resources

Develop an internal monitoring and evaluation framework to measure impact