

Strasbourg, 26 March 2024

CDDEM(2024)OJ1

STEERING COMMITTEE ON DEMOCRACY (CDDEM)

**1st Plenary meeting
Strasbourg, Palais de l'Europe, room 11**

**13 May 2024, 9.30-13.00 / 14.30-17.30 (CET)
14 May 2024, 9.30-13.00 / 14.30-17.30 (CET)**

AGENDA

- 1. Opening of the meeting by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe**
- 2. Adoption of the agenda and order of business**
- 3. Information by the Secretariat: the role of the CDDEM and its place in the Council of Europe**
 - 3.1. Introduction of Council of Europe's intergovernmental work
 - 3.2. CDDEM [Terms of reference](#) and Rules of Procedure
- 4. Challenges for democracy in Europe**
 - 4.1. Findings from reports of the Secretary General on the State of Democracy, Human Rights and the Rule of Law
 - 4.2. Presentation of contemporary challenges facing European democracies
 - 4.3. Tour de table of the CDDEM members
- 5. Reykjavik Principles for Democracy and the parameters to facilitate their application and implementation**
 - 5.1. Introduction of the aims pursued by the operationalisation of the [Reykjavik Principles for Democracy](#)
 - 5.2. Relevant work of the [European Commission for Democracy through Law](#) (Venice Commission)
 - 5.3. Relevant work of the [Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe](#)
 - 5.4. Brainstorming on the objectives and format of the parameters and related workplan

6. Freedom of association, shrinking civic space and meaningful participation in public life

- 6.1. Update of Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2007\)14](#) of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the legal status of non-governmental organisations in Europe
- 6.2. Relevant work of the following entities and organisations:
 - [European Court of Human Rights](#): latest case law on freedom of assembly and association
 - [Department for the Execution of Judgments](#) of the European Court of Human Rights
 - [CINGO Expert Council on NGO Law](#)
 - [Advisory Council on Youth](#)
 - [CIVICUS Global Alliance](#)

7. Enhancing civil society participation in the work of the Council of Europe

- 7.1. Current practice of civil society engagement in the Council of Europe
- 7.2. Draft guidance on enhancing civil society participation in Council of Europe work

8. The role of artificial intelligence in public debate relating to democratic processes

- 8.1. Study on the use of AI in public debate

9. World Forum for Democracy – synergies and opportunities for introducing its conclusions into the CDDEM work

10. Working Methods of the CDDEM

- 10.1. Establishment of working groups:
 - on parameters to facilitate the application and implementation of the Reykjavik Principles and other relevant Council of Europe standards to promote, protect and strengthen democracy throughout the member States
 - on enhancing civil society participation in the work of the Council of Europe
 - on updating Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2007\)14](#) on legal status of non-governmental organisations in Europe
- 10.2. Planning of [elections](#) of CDDEM Chair, Vice-Chair and Bureau
- 10.3. Appointment of CDDEM Rapporteurs on mainstreamed perspectives
- 10.4. Participation of [observer organisations](#) and criteria for observer status

11. Date of the next meeting

12. Any other business

13. Adoption of the abridged meeting report