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Dear Madam President,
Dear Mister President,

It is a special pleasure for me to invite you and a delegation of your Court to the XVIth Congress of the Conference of European Constitutional Courts in Vienna. As decided by the Circle of Presidents on 10 September 2012, the Congress will be held at the Congress Centre of the Hofburg Vienna (<http://www.hofburg.com/>), a place steeped in history, from 12 to 14 May 2014.

We greatly appreciate the fact that your Court has prepared a national report on “The Co-operation of Constitutional Courts in Europe – Current Situation and Perspectives”, the theme chosen for our Congress. Together with all other reports and summaries submitted to us, it has been published both on the permanent website of the CECC (<http://www.confcoconsteu.org/>) and on our Court’s sub-site (<http://www.vfgh.gv.at/cms/vfgh-kongress/en/xvi-kongress-2014/landesberichte.html>).

On the basis of these national reports, Professor Grabenwarter, General Rapporteur of the Congress, will present his report in the course of the first session (see Decision III, Item 5, adopted on 10 September 2012) after the solemn opening of the Congress on 12 May at 11:00.

The four subsequent sessions will be dealing with the sub-themes already communicated in the “Preliminary Schedule for the Congress” dated 21 May 2012. Input papers will be delivered on these sub-themes and – as we all hope – lively discussions will follow.

For ease of communication, simultaneous interpretation will be provided in the official languages of the Congress (French, English, German and Russian) as well as in Italian and Spanish (Art. 12 para. 2 of the Conference Regulations).

Moreover, we are happy to organize a social programme in Vienna for you, the members of your delegation and the accompanying persons. For Sunday evening (11 May 2014, 19:00), we are planning a welcome dinner at the *Orangerie* of Schönbrunn Palace. On Monday evening (12 May 2014, 20:00), we will be received by the City of Vienna in the *Arkadenhof* of the City Hall. For Tuesday evening (13 May 2014, 19:00), we will be inviting you to a concert at the Vienna *Musikverein*, to be followed by the closing reception of the Congress at the Vienna State Opera. Our full-day excursion on Wednesday (14 May 2014) will take us to Burgenland. For further details, please refer to the enclosed draft programme.

It goes without saying that transfer (shuttle service by bus and minivan) will be provided throughout the Congress.

We would ask you and your delegation (up to five persons) to register for the Congress as soon as possible and to complete the online registration form by **22 February 2014, at the latest** (<https://secure.austropa-interconvention.at/ei/getdemo.ei?id=769&s=1100JVMW5>). To facilitate the booking procedure, we have recruited an agency (Austropa Interconvention Congress Secretariat) for logistic support.

Using the online form, you can book your hotel accommodation and, at the same time, communicate your travel data and special requests to us. For a pleasant stay in Vienna, we have chosen the Vienna Intercontinental Hotel at *Stadtpark*. It has the capacity to accommodate all Congress participants and is conveniently located in the city centre in the vicinity of all Congress venues.

As regards the Circle of Presidents to be convened immediately before the opening of the XVith Congress of the CECC, you will soon receive a separate letter.

Yours sincerely,

Enclosures:
Draft programme