

SC aD Univ. Prof Dr. Gerhart Holzinger Präsident des Verfassungsgerichtshofs

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Vienna, 31 January 2012

Dear Madam President, Dear Mister President,

In October 2009, the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Austria was chosen to host the XVIth Congress of the Conference of European Constitutional Courts in Vienna.

In preparation of the conference, it is my pleasure to invite you to the Circle of Presidents to be held in Vienna from 9 to 11 September 2012. It goes without saying that this invitation is also addressed to the person accompanying you (Article 9 of the Statutes of the Conference).

The Circle of Presidents (preparatory meeting) will start with a reception and dinner on 9 September 2012 at 7:00 p.m. and end on 11 September 2012 at about 5:00 p.m.

The venue of the Circle of Presidents will be the Vienna Grand Hotel. In order to ensure that your stay will be as pleasant as possible, we have chosen this traditional hotel (<u>www.grandhotelwien.com</u>) in the centre of Vienna not just as the venue of the meeting, but also for your accommodation.

The Constitutional Court has not only negotiated special terms and conditions for your overnight stays at the hotel, but will also contribute to the costs of accommodation for the official conference days (for details please refer to the enclosed registration form).

Founded in 1972, the Conference of European Constitutional Courts is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year. It is therefore a special honour for me to host the Circle of Presidents and to arrange a suitable social programme, in keeping with the significance of the event, in Vienna.

Following the custom of past congresses, in addition to the conference languages of French, English, German and Russian, simultaneous interpretation will be provided upon request also for Italian and Spanish (Section 12 (2) of the Regulations of the Conference).

To facilitate the organisation of the preparatory meeting and the Congress proper, I would ask you

• to inform us as soon as possible which of the conference languages your Court wishes to use in our future correspondence

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 to complete the enclosed registration form for each person (including accompanying persons, if any) participating in the Circle of Presidents and the social programme and to return it to the Vienna Grand Hotel as well as the Austrian Constitutional Court by 25 May 2012, at the latest.

A draft agenda and a detailed programme for the pre-conference as well as a proposal for the theme of the conference will be sent to you in May.

Yours sincerely,

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