



**SC i.R. Univ.Prof. Dr. Gerhart Holzinger**  
President of the Constitutional Court

To the  
Representatives of the regional and  
linguistic groups of the World  
Conference on Constitutional Justice  
(WCCJ)

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Distinguished Presidents,  
Distinguished representatives of the regional and linguistic groups of the World  
Conference on Constitutional Justice,

In late January of this year, I had the pleasure of inviting you to attend the XVI<sup>th</sup> Congress  
of the Conference of European Constitutional Courts (CECC) as observers.

Being aware of the growing importance of the World Conference and its regional and  
linguistic groups, the Austrian Constitutional Court – as a founding member of both the  
Conference of European Constitutional Courts and the World Conference on Constitutional  
Justice (WCCJ) – would welcome your active participation in the Congress.

The solemn opening session of the Congress on Monday, 12 May 2014, at 11:00 would  
provide the ideal framework. This opening session would be greatly enriched if you, as  
representative and/or chairperson of one of the regional and linguistic groups of the WCCJ,  
were to take the floor on that occasion.

Hence, it is a special pleasure for me to invite you to briefly address the participants of the  
Congress and our guests.

Given the fact that no more than an hour and a half has been scheduled for the opening session, we kindly ask all speakers to stick precisely to the agreed time schedule. I therefore have to ask you as well to limit your address to three to five minutes.

As regards the question concerning the role of so-called observers at a Congress of the CECC, I should like to draw your attention to Article 7 of the Conference Regulations, according to which observers have the following rights of participation:

- attendance at the Congress;
- presentation of a report on the specific themes of the Congress;
- participation in the debates.

For further information about the Congress and its schedule of events, please visit the sub-site of our homepage at: <http://www.vfgh.gv.at/cms/vfgh-kongress/welcome.html>.

Yours sincerely,