

CONSTITUTIONAL COURT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF
MOLDOVA

PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC
COOPERATION
PABSEC



**THE FIRST FORUM OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURTS
OF THE BSEC MEMBER-STATES
10-11 DECEMBER 2001**

CHISINAU DECLARATION

We, the Presidents of the Constitutional Courts of the Black Sea countries, attending the First Forum of the Constitutional Courts of the BSEC Member-States, held under the auspices of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (PABSEC), on 10-11 December 2001, in Chisinau, upon the invitation by the Chairman of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Moldova,

stressing the crucial importance of the endeavours by the Member-States of the BSEC Organisation with a view of consolidating and enhancing democratic institutions, constitutional justice and the rule of law as a major force for securing democratic development of the society, pluralism, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and elevating the Black Sea countries to the universal values and the European standards,

taking due account of the experience already acquired by the countries in transition in promoting supremacy of law, and **emphasising** the high responsibility of the Constitutional Courts - as the guardian of democratic constitutional stability of the state – in addressing the fundamental issues of constitutional justice, independent and impartial judiciary, just and fair civil society,

welcoming the achievements of the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) in the institutionalisation of a solid framework of cooperation aimed at promoting the lofty goals of friendship, cooperation, prosperity, stability and peace in the Black Sea region as a major contribution to a free and undivided Europe,

appreciating the resolute actions of the National Parliaments and the BSEC Parliamentary Assembly focused on upholding legal and regulatory systems of the Member-States and developing legislative acts boosting multilateral economic cooperation, speeding up economic, political and social reforms in the region,

recognising the valuable work of the European Commission on Democracy through Law (Venice Commission) in upholding and reinforcing the legal and constitutional values and standards of the Council of Europe Member-States,

hereby agreed on the following:

1. The First Forum of the Constitutional Courts of the BSEC Member-States provided a useful and instructive opportunity to make a comprehensive exchange of views and to share experience on basic issues related to the activities of the Constitutional Courts, most

particularly, their role in strengthening the supremacy of law in enhancing democratic institution-building in the Member-States..

2. The participants expressed their commitment to fully make use of the Constitutional Courts' competence in order to ensure independence and authority of the judiciary as a vital element in strengthening the rule of law and securing effective implementation of human rights and fundamental freedoms, upholding the integrity of other democratic institutions, preventing the abuse of power.
3. The Constitutional Courts of the Member-States are determined to intensify bilateral and multilateral cooperation in the Black Sea region, to share expertise on matters related to their specific activities, to take part in training programs relevant to their responsibilities to work together for ensuring the public support in the basic institutions of law and law-enforcing and improving the public knowledge about the principles of the rule of law.
4. Furthermore, the Constitutional Courts voiced their readiness to take greater account of the work, experience and resources of the relevant European institutions, particularly in the provisions of expertise on democratic institutions and the rule of law.
5. The participants resolutely condemned international terrorism in all its forms as a global challenge to democratic development and the rule of law, highly dangerous threat to political, economic and social stability, to peace and security

Therefore, the Constitutional Courts of the Member-States are committed to provide within the scope of their competence full support to the actions undertaken by the respective Parliaments and Governments alongside with the international community towards combating international terrorism – the scourge of our time.

6. The participants expressed thanks to the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Moldova for the excellent conditions provided for the Forum and for the warm hospitality.

They agreed to organise the next forum upon the invitation by the Constitutional Court of a Member-State.

Adopted by the First Forum of the Constitutional Courts of the Member-States of the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation.

Chisinau, 11 December 2001

ALBANIA

ARMENIA

AZERBAIJAN

BULGARIA

GEORGIA

GREECE

MOLDOVA

ROMANIA

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

TURKEY

UKRAINE