

**Seventh
International Judicial Conference**

*“Courts of Ultimate Appeal VII:
Judicial Independence in Constitutional and Supreme Courts”*

May 27 - 29, 1999

**The President Hotel
Moscow, Russian Federation**

Organized by The Center for Democracy

in cooperation with

**The Council of Europe
Furth Family Foundation
Supreme Court of the Russian Federation
Supreme Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation**



1999 International Judicial Conference

“Courts of Ultimate Appeal VII:
Judicial Independence in Constitutional and Supreme Courts”

Moscow, Russia

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Wednesday, May 26

Participants arrive at The President Hotel
24 B. Yakimanka Street
Tel: (095) 239-3800, 239-3939
Fax: (095) 230-2318, 230-7813

19:30 Opening Dinner Reception at the President Hotel
(Red Hall, 2nd Floor)

Thursday, May 27

*The President Hotel
Concert Hall, 2nd Floor*

9:00 **Welcoming Addresses**

- Chairman Vyacheslav Lebedev, Supreme Court, Russian Federation
- Chairman Veniamin Yakovlev, Supreme Arbitration Court, Russian Federation
- Hans Christian Krüger, Deputy Secretary General, The Council of Europe
- Frederick P. Furth, Esq., Senior Partner, Furth, Fahrner & Mason, and Director, The Center for Democracy

9:45 **Session I: Major Legal Achievements of the Council of Europe During
Its First 50 Years**

- Chair: Heinrich Klebes, Chairman of the Governing Board, International Institute for Democracy
- Presenter: Guy de Vel, Director of Legal Affairs, The Council of Europe
“The Council of Europe and the Judiciary”
- Presenter: Jacques Robert, Member, European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission)
“The Development of Constitutional Justice in Europe”

10:30 Coffee break

- 11:00 **General Discussion**
- 12:30 **Lunch**
(Blue Dining Room, 2nd Floor)
- 14:00 **Session II: The New Court of Human Rights – Experience of Its First Half Year**
- Chair: Judge Christoph Rozakis, Vice-President, European Court of Human Rights
“The First Six Months of the New European Court of Human Rights – A Practical Description”
 - Presenter: Judge Gaukur Jörundsson, European Court of Human Rights
“The Experience of New Member States Before the Convention Organs – A Case Law Description”
- 14:30 **General Discussion**
- 15:30 **Coffee break**
- 16:00 **General Discussion**
- 17:30 **End of Session**
- 19:30 **Dinner at Tiflis Restaurant**

Friday, May 28

*The President Hotel
Concert Hall, 2nd Floor*

- 9:00 **Opening Announcements**
- 9:15 **Session III: Status of Judges in the New Democracies: Independence in Relation to Other Branches of Government**
- Chair: Frederick P. Furth, Esq., Senior Partner, Furth, Fahrner & Mason, and Director, The Center for Democracy
 - Presenter: Chairman Veniamin Yakovlev, Supreme Arbitration Court, Russian Federation
 - Presenter: Justice Vladimir Paul, Constitutional Court, Czech Republic
 - Presenter: Chairman Khanlar Hadjiev, Constitutional Court, Azerbaijan
- 10:00 **General Discussion**
- 11:15 **Coffee Break**
- 11:45 **Session IV: Understanding the Court System: Educating the Public and the Media**
- Chair: Chairman Vyacheslav Lebedev, Supreme Court, Russian Federation
 - Presenter: President Pál Solt, Supreme Court, Hungary
 - Presenter: President Jaime Octavio Cardona Ferreira, Supreme Court, Portugal
- 12:30 **Lunch**
(Blue Dining Room, 2nd Floor)
- 14:00 **General Discussion**

- 15:30 Coffee Break
- 16:00 **Break-Out Discussions on Topical Issues of Concern to Courts of Ultimate Appeal**
- English-language Group (*Blue Room, 2nd Floor*)
Moderator/Rapporteur: Justice Jorge Rodriguez-Zapata, Supreme Court, Spain
 - English/French-language Group (*Concert Hall, 2nd Floor*)
Moderator/Rapporteur: Justice Jean-Claude Colliard, Constitutional Council, France
 - Russian-language Group (*Library, 2nd Floor*)
Moderator/Rapporteur: Chairman Mindia Ugrehelidze, Supreme Court, Georgia
- 17:30 End of Session
- 18:00-
20:00 Tour and Reception at Danilovski Monastery hosted by the Russian-American Judicial Partnership and the Supreme Arbitration Court of the Russian Federation
- 20:30 Dinner at the President Hotel
(*Blue Dining Room, Second Floor*)

Saturday, May 29

The President Hotel

Concert Hall, 2nd Floor

- 9:00 Opening comments
- 9:15 Reports by Group Chairmen/Rapporteurs
- 10:00 Coffee Break
- 10:30 Closing Discussion
- 11:30 Closing Comments
- Chairman Vyacheslav Lebedev, Supreme Court, Russian Federation
 - Chairman Veniamin Yakovlev, Supreme Arbitration Court, Russian Federation
 - Hans Christian Krüger, Deputy Secretary General, The Council of Europe
 - Frederick P. Furth, Esq., Senior Partner, Furth, Fahrner & Mason, and Director, The Center for Democracy
- 12:30 Closing Lunch
(*Blue Dining Room, 2nd Floor*)