

The Center for Democracy

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8th International Judicial Conference

“Courts of Ultimate Appeal VIII:
Issues of Judicial Independence”

San Francisco, USA
May 25 – 27, 2000

Conference Program

Wednesday, May 24

Participants arrive at the San Francisco Hilton Hotel
333 O’Farrell Street
Tel: (415) 771-1400
Fax: (415) 771-6807

15:00-18:00 Conference Registration
Main Lobby

Thursday, May 25

The Hilton Hotel

9:00-11:00 Conference Registration
Continental Ballroom 6

12:00 **Opening Lunch**
Continental Parlor 1-2

14:00 **Opening Remarks**
Continental Ballroom 6

- Frederick P. Furth, Esq., Senior Partner, The Furth Firm, and Director, The Center for Democracy
- Hans Christian Krüger, Deputy Secretary General, The Council of Europe
- Chief Judge Procter Hug, 9th Circuit Court of Appeals, United States
- Professor Allen Weinstein, President and CEO, The Center for Democracy

- 14:30 **Session One: Judicial Independence: Ethics and the Problem of Corruption**
Moderator: Elisabeth Palm, Vice President, European Court of Human Rights
Presenters:
- Presiding Justice Ernst Markel, Supreme Court, Austria
 - President Marek Safjan, Constitutional Tribunal, Poland
- 15:00 **General Discussion**
Respondents:
- Chairman Khanlar Hadjiev, Constitutional Court, Azerbaijan
 - Heinrich Klebes, Chairman of the Governing Board, International Institute for Democracy
- 16:00 Coffee Break
- 16:30 Discussion Continues
- 17:00 The View from an Asian Democracy: Chief Justice Hilario Davide, Supreme Court, Philippines
- 17:15 The View from a Latin American Democracy: Justice Olga Sánchez Cordero, Supreme Court of Justice, Mexico
- 17:30 End of session
- 17:45 Bus departs for reception
from Taylor Street Exit
- 18:00 Dinner Reception at the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
95 Seventh Street, San Francisco
Hosted by Chief Judge Procter Hug

Friday, May 26

The Hilton Hotel

Continental Ballroom 6

- 9:00 **Session Two: Determining Court Caseloads: Obligatory and Discretionary Appeals**
Moderator: Frederick P. Furth, Esq., Senior Partner, The Furth Firm, and Director, The Center for Democracy
Presenters:
- Justice Alexander Arabadjiev, Constitutional Court, Bulgaria
 - Justice Eilert Stang Lund, Supreme Court of Justice, Norway
- 9:20 **General Discussion**
Respondent:
- Justice Alexander Bröstitl, Constitutional Court, Slovak Republic
- 10:30 Coffee Break

- 11:00 **Session Three: Judicial Competencies and Specialized Courts: Divisions of Authority**
Moderator: Professor Allen Weinstein, President and CEO, The Center for Democracy
Presenters:
- President Roger Beauvois, Court of Cassation, France
 - Chairman Veniamin Yakovlev, Supreme Arbitration Court, Russian Federation
- 11:20 **General Discussion**
Respondent:
- President Pál Solt, Supreme Court, Hungary
- 12:30 Lunch
Continental Parlor 1-2
- 14:30 **Session Four: Politics and the Judiciary: Strengthening Professional Selection**
Criteria (Breakout groups)
Discussion Leaders:
- **English-Language Group:** Justice Jorge Rodriguez-Zapata, Supreme Court, Spain, *Franciscan Room A & B*
 - **French- and English-Languages Group:** Vice President Georges Kill, Constitutional Court, Luxembourg, *Continental Ballroom 6*
 - **Russian-Language Group:** Chairman Hovhaness Manoukian, Commercial Court of Appeal, Armenia, *Franciscan Room C & D*
- 16:00 Coffee Break
- 16:30 Reports of Breakout Groups
Moderator:
- Chairman Jerzy Jaskiernia, Subcommittee on Human Rights, Parliamentary Assembly, The Council of Europe
- 17:30 End of session
- 17:45 Bus departs Hilton hotel for dinner
from Taylor Street Exit
- 18:00 Dinner at Moose's Restaurant
1652 Stockton Street, San Francisco
Hosted by Mr. and Mrs. Frederick P. Furth

Saturday, May 27

***The Hilton Hotel, Continental Ballroom 6/
Healdsburg, CA***

- 9:00 **Session Five: The Training of Judges and Court Personnel in the New Democracies: Lessons of the 1990s**
Moderator: Hans Christian Krüger, Deputy Secretary General, The Council of Europe
Presenters:
- Chief Justice Uno Lõhmus, Supreme Court, Estonia
 - Deputy Chairman Nikolai Petukhov, Supreme Court, Russian Federation
 - Chief Justice Eliška Wagnarová, Supreme Court, Czech Republic

- 9:30 **General Discussion**
Respondent:
- Jacques Robert, Member, European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission)
- 10:30 Coffee Break
- 11:00 Discussion Continues
- 11:30 **Closing Comments**
- Hans Christian Krüger, Deputy Secretary General, The Council of Europe
 - Elisabeth Palm, Vice President, European Court of Human Rights
 - Professor Allen Weinstein, President and CEO, The Center for Democracy
- 13:00 Departure for Chalk Hill Estate, Vineyards and Winery,
Healdsburg, California [box lunches to be distributed on board the buses]
from Taylor Street Exit
- 14:30 Tour of Chalk Hill Estate, Vineyards and Winery; wine tastings
- 17:30 Reception
- 18:30 Closing Dinner hosted by Mr. and Mrs. Frederick P. Furth

Sunday, May 28
Participants depart