

Speech of
Dr. Gagik Harutyunyan,
the President of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Armenia,
on the occasion of establishment of
“CONSTITUTIONAL CULTURE” International Analytical Center

Your Excellency Honorable Mr. President of the Republic of Armenia,
Distinguished Guests, Colleagues,

The international experience of the constitutional justice, as well as the developed discussions within the framework of ongoing pan-European conference convened in Yerevan indicate the level of urgency that the matters of establishment of constitutionalism and guaranteeing the rule of law have obtained throughout the modern world.

It is undeniable, that in each state the main guarantee for achieving sustainable development is the establishment of constitutional democracy. The latter, in its turn, requires consistent constitutionalization of public affairs, as well as necessary and sufficient level of constitutional culture.

Taking into consideration the urgency of the respective matter and the necessity to consolidate professional potential for withstanding the existing challenges, we have launched the process of founding the "Constitutional Culture" International Analytical Center.

I would like to express the words of gratitude to all our partners, who have actively reacted to the initiative and have expressed their willingness to become co-founders of the Center alongside with us. In particular, among the list there are individuals from various states who have had outstanding contribution in the field of constitutional studies. Namely,

Aivars Endzins – Professor, Member of the Bureau of the Venice Commission of the Council of Europe, Latvia

Andras Sajó – Professor, Vice-President of the European Court of Human Rights

Avakyan Suren – Professor, Head of the Department of Constitutional and Municipal Law at Moscow State University of Lomonosov

Bondar Nikolay – Professor, Judge of the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation

Bazyler Michael – Professor at Chapman University, USA

Guerra Luis Lopez – Section president at the European Court of Human Rights, Spain

Degenhart Christoph – Professor, University of Leipzig, Germany

Zupancic Bostjan – Former Judge of the European Court of Human Rights, Slovenia

Luchterhandt Otto – Professor at Hamburg University, Germany

Liverovskiy Aleksei – Professor, Dean of the Faculty of Law of the Saint Petersburg State University of Economics and Finance

Khabrieva Taliya – Professor, Academician of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Member of the Bureau of the Venice Commission of the Council of Europe

Karakamisheva-Jovanovska Tanja – Professor of Constitutional Law at the University of St. Cyril and Methodius in Skopje, Member of the Venice Commission of the Council of Europe, Macedonia

Kutris Gunars – Professor, Deputy Speaker of the Saeima of the Republic of Latvia

Hartwig Matthias – Professor, Max Planck Institute, Heidelberg, Germany

Malinverni Giorgio – Professor, Former Judge of the European Court of Human Rights, Switzerland

Malinovskiy Victor – Professor, Member of the Constitutional Council of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Mavrin Sergey – Professor, Vice-President of the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation

Mahmudzoda Mahkam – Professor, Academician of the ASRT, President of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Tajikistan

Paczolay Peter – Professor, Honorary President of the Venice Commission

Papuashvili George – Professor, Former President of the Constitutional Court of Georgia

Vardzelashvili Konstantine – Professor, Former Vice-President of the CC of Georgia

Tanchev Evgeni – Professor, Former President of the Constitutional Court of Bulgaria

Pleps Janis – Professor, Adviser to the President of the Republic of Latvia

Rodina Anita - Professor, Dean of the Faculty of Law of the University of Latvia

Rogov Igor – Professor, President of the Constitutional Council of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Tarca Luigi Vero – Professor, Director of the Centre for Human Rights Studies of the Ca' Foscari University of Venice

Marija Draškić – Judge of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Serbia

Milan Stanić – Judge of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Serbia

Co-founding collective members of the “CONSTITUTIONAL CULTURE” International Analytical Center are also:

Center of Constitutional Law of RA

Centre for Human Rights Studies of the Ca' Foscari University of Venice

“Constitutional economics” scientific-analytical center of the Faculty of Economics and Management of YSU

Center for Study and Documentation of Armenian Culture of Venice

Honorable participants,

In coming days the Center will be registered in the Republic of Armenia in accordance with the procedure prescribed by the law and will carry out its activities on the basis of its recently developed statute.

Among the main functions of the Center are, particularly, with the involvement of international experts:

- to conduct scientific-analytical activities, organize international conferences, scientific-practical discussions regarding the fundamental issues of constitutional culture;
- to elaborate functional and institutional solutions for the introduction of a functional system for conducting diagnostics of constitutionalism and constitutional monitoring;

- to draft and publish resolutions regarding the real state of constitutional culture in a number of countries;
- to actively co-operate with various international and regional organizations in the mentioned sphere;
- to support the institutions of civil society with the issues of rooting and developing constitutional culture, to organize and conduct youth festivals, Olympiads;
- to publish “Constitutional Culture” multilingual journal, etc.

It is planned to convene an international conference “Present Challenges of Deformation of the Spiritual and Legal Human Behavior and the Imperatives of their Overcoming” in 2017.

Taking into account that 2018 will be announced as a cultural year in Europe, it is planned to convene the 2018 International Conference on the topic “The Challenges of the Culture of Co-Existence in the Modern World and the Imperatives of their Counteraction”. Within the frames of the latter the axiological and constitutional-legal prerequisites of the civilized co-existence and tolerance will be especially touched upon.

I am sure that many of you will have an opportunity to be an active participant of the initiatives of the Center, to introduce your experience and knowledge to the effective realization of the efforts for the development of constitutional culture in the modern world.

Once again expressing gratitude to all our colleagues joined to this initiative, let’s wish a successful start and productive activities to the newly established Center.

Thanks for your attention!