

dr. iur.Villu Kõve Chief Justice The Supreme Court of Estonia

Budapest, 9 December 2024

Dear Mr. Chief Justice,

The Constitutional Court of Hungary is organising an international conference in Budapest on 23 January 2025, commemorating the 35th anniversary of the establishment of the Constitutional Court.

The conference will provide an opportunity for a forum for mutual discussions. Since its establishment, the Constitutional Court of Hungary has contributed to the protection of fundamental rights, democracy and the rule of law. The international conference will provide an opportunity to review and assess the developments and achievements of the Constitutional Court of Hungary, as well as to exchange thoughts on the challenges that may have an impact on the protection of fundamental rights and the future of constitutional adjudication and constitutional courts.

The international conference will address three main topics. The first section will focus on the role of constitutional courts in the functioning of legal systems. Within this panel, we will analyse the establishment of constitutional courts, how Constitutional Courts reached back to constitutional traditions (in Hungary to the historical constitution), and what role they played in consolidating the legal system.

In the next section, we will examine the place of constitutional adjudication in Europe, with a particular focus on the impact of accession to the European Union on constitutional adjudication and on the trends in the protection of fundamental rights in Europe.

The third section will examine the most recent challenges: the impact of exceptional or emergency situations (such as the pandemic), artificial intelligence, digitalisation on the protection of fundamental rights and the practice of constitutional courts.

The conference will also provide an opportunity to identify trends that have already emerged and those that are likely to arise. Please find attached the draft program of the conference.

The international conference will bring together mainly presidents and judges of partner constitutional courts to share their views on the above-mentioned topics. We plan to publish the presentations in a special issue of the Hungarian Constitutional Court's scientific journal, the Constitutional Court Review (In Hungarian: Alkotmánybírósági Szemle).

I believe that the lectures and ideas presented at the conference will contribute to the development of constitutional jurisprudence and to the further strengthening of relations between constitutional courts.

Dear Mr. Chief Justice,

I hereby respectfully invite Your Excellency (or your designated representative) and another member of The Supreme Court of Estonia to attend the international conference. The Conference will take place at the Chamber of the Upper House of the Parliament of Hungary.

I am convinced that the discussions and exchanges of views at the conference will contribute to the further development of constitutionalism and the protection of human rights.

I sincerely hope that Your Excellency will accept my invitation and we will be able to welcome you personally at the International Conference.

I would greatly appreciate receiving your confirmation at your earliest convenience, if possible not later than 30 December 2024.

Yours sincerely,