



Samarkand Declaration

The 7th Congress of the Association of Asian Constitutional Courts
and Equivalent Institutions
on the theme of
“Constitutional Justice in the Context of Digitalization and
Artificial Intelligence”

October 2nd, 2026

We, the Members of the Association of Asian Constitutional Courts and Equivalent Institutions, having gathered in Samarkand on 1-2 October 2026 for the Seventh Congress, reaffirming our commitment to the Association's Statute, the supremacy of the Constitution, judicial independence, human rights and the rule of law, adopt this Samarkand Declaration.

We, recognizing the continuity of previously adopted declarations and outcome documents, declare as follows:

1. The supremacy of the Constitution, the rule of law, the separation of powers, the independence of the judiciary and judges, human rights, equality, non-discrimination and fair justice remain the highest guiding principles for constitutional courts and equivalent institutions. No technological development may weaken these fundamental safeguards. Technological development in society should likewise be directed towards strengthening these guiding principles.
2. Digital transformation should respect the constitutional order, national law, legal traditions and development priorities of each Member of the Association and should proceed from the principle that technology serves the supremacy of the Constitution, the individual, the development of society and the quality of justice.
3. Electronic applications, electronic case management, remote participation, digital archives, publication of judicial decisions and information platforms should enhance the openness, transparency, timeliness and quality of constitutional justice and facilitate equal access to justice. Digital tools should not create new barriers or inequalities for persons with disabilities, residents of remote areas or others in need of protection.

4. Artificial intelligence may be used solely as an auxiliary tool for searching legal information, systematizing judicial practice, preparing statistical reviews, and analyzing data. It may assist a judge in formulating a legal position, but it may not substitute for the judge's inner conviction in upholding the supremacy of the Constitution. Artificial intelligence may not independently formulate a legal assessment or shape a judge's inner conviction, interpret the Constitution in place of the court, or render a judicial decision.

Automation should support judicial activity, not replace it. The final determination of matters of constitutional significance must remain the result of the independent legal assessment, professional responsibility, constitutional and legal position, and inner conviction of the judge or the competent judicial body; fully automated judicial decision-making is inadmissible.

Artificial intelligence must not be used in any manner that undermines the freedom of humans to shape their own future.

5. Digital and artificial intelligence systems used in judicial activities should be transparent, explainable, verifiable, impartial and subject to meaningful human control. Bias in data and algorithms should be prevented, equality and non-discrimination ensured, and independent oversight of such systems provided.
6. Personal data, privacy, confidential information and judicial information should be reliably protected. Protecting judicial information systems, electronic databases, digital archives and communication channels against unauthorized access, cyberattacks, data breaches and other threats is an essential requirement of cybersecurity.
7. Where the use of an artificial intelligence system affects a person's rights, that person should have access to relevant information, human review and effective remedies.
8. Regular professional training for judges and judicial personnel in artificial intelligence, data protection, algorithmic risks and cybersecurity is an important condition for responsible digital transformation.
9. The Members of the Association will continue exchanging experience in digitalization, artificial intelligence, data protection, cybersecurity, electronic document management and the openness and accessibility of judicial information; strengthening interaction between their staff and secretariats; preparing comparative legal materials; holding online consultations; developing digital communication channels; and discussing issues of common importance for constitutional jurisdiction. They will also consider establishing a specialized working group.
10. The Association encourages cooperation with the World Conference on Constitutional Justice and its secretariats, the Venice Commission, United Nations institutions and other competent international partners, as well as interregional dialogue. Other constitutional courts and equivalent institutions committed to the principles of constitutional justice are invited to join the Association.
11. The Association expresses solidarity with, and support for, any Member undergoing a period of institutional or constitutional transition or facing challenges to the independence of its constitutional justice. The supremacy of the Constitution and the independence of constitutional justice must be respected in all circumstances, and cases must be decided solely on the basis of the Constitution.

The present Declaration expresses our common commitment to modern, independent, open, secure and human-centered constitutional justice.

The Members of the Association, together with the invited guests and participants of the Congress, express their appreciation to the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan for the outstanding organization of the events and the generous hospitality extended.

Adopted by consensus at the Seventh Congress of the Association of Asian Constitutional Courts and Equivalent Institutions. Samarkand, Republic of Uzbekistan, 2 October 2026.