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Dear Presidents,

In my capacity as the Chairman of the Conference of European Constitutional Courts I would like to draw your attention to the recent „Opinion on the Fourth Amendment of the Fundamental Law of Hungary” which has been adopted by the Venice Commission at its 95<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session in Venice on 14 – 15 June 2013.

According to this opinion, this “Amendment seriously affects the role of the Constitutional Court of Hungary in a number of ways: [... T]hese measures amount to a threat for constitutional justice and for the supremacy of the basic principles contained in the Fundamental Law of Hungary. The limitation of the role of the Constitutional Court leads to a risk that it may negatively affect all three pillars of the Council of Europe: the separation of powers as an essential tenet of democracy, the protection of human rights and the rule of law.”

For further information please see the above mentioned document CDL-AD(2013)012 published on the website of the Venice Commission:  
[http://www.venice.coe.int/webforms/documents/?pdf=CDL-AD\(2013\)012-e](http://www.venice.coe.int/webforms/documents/?pdf=CDL-AD(2013)012-e)

Sincerely yours,