## Timeliness

# Scope, Impact and Causes Quality and Independence 

Regional Seminar on Timeliness

Bukarest, November 2015
By Niels Grubbe, Denmark Judge at the Supreme Court
Former Chairman of the Danish Court

## Justice delayed is justice denied

- Conflict resolution and balancing power
- What is at stake for the parties to the individual conflict
- What is at stake for society
- Time is money


## Undue Delay

- Time needed
- For presentation and examination
- For consideration and decision
- For the shelf
- Time available
- Different types of conflict
- Time expected
- Attuning necessity and expectation


## Causes for Delay 1

- Amount of judicial conflicts
- Alternative dispute resolution
- Uncertainty of material law
- Different conflicts - different requirements
- Shortages
- Judges and other staff
- Premises and technical equipment


## Send less cases and more money!

## Causes for Delay 2

- Organisation
- Courts (the judicial map)
- Judges - training, specialisation
- Court management
- Procedural rules
- Case management
- Repetitive cases
- Attitude of stakeholders
- Judges
- Advocates and prosecutors
- Administrators


## State and Improvements

- What is the present situation?
- Examining objective facts (processing time, backlogs)
- Examining subjective facts (users' evaluations)
- Comparison between courts
- Comparison between countries
- Is it fine?
- Could it be better?


## What can we do?

- Who are we?
- Judges, Courts and Court Administrations
- Government and Parliament
- Advocates and prosecutors
- Parties
- What is our competence?
- To act
- To decide
- To initiate
- What are the possibilities?
- Resources


## Quality

- Right decision
- Result
- Reasoning
- Communication
- Costs
- Time
- Balancing the quality features


## Independence

- Demands for efficiency
- Judges know best
- Learning from others
- Advocates and prosecutors
- Public administration
- Commercial enterprises

