The Commission’s Rule of Law Mechanism

Annegret Kempf
European Commission
Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers
Justice policy and rule of law Unit

7 December 2021
Rule of Law Mechanism

New instrument

- Annual cycle
- Early detection and prevention of rule of law problems
- Stimulating dialogue and promotion of a rule of law culture
Rule of Law Report

Qualitative assessment of developments related to the rule of law in all 27 Member States

Covering four pillars:
- Justice system
- Anti-corruption framework
- Media Pluralism
- Institutional checks and balances
Rule of Law Report

How the European Rule of Law Mechanism Works:

- Member States
  - Network of Contact Points on the Rule of Law
    - Written Input
  - Written Input
  - Commission Country Visits
  - Annual Rule of Law Report
    - Inter-institutional cooperation between EU institutions: Council, European Parliament, ...
    - Dialogue in Member States: National Parliaments, Authorities, Civil Society
Follow-up to the Rule of Law Report

- Dialogue at the European and national level
  - Dialogue in the Council (GAC) + EP
  - Dialogue at national level + follow-up in the Member States
- From 2022 onwards: concrete recommendations to the Member States
Stakeholder consultation

• Open from 1 December – 24 January 2022
• Questions on horizontal developments and on country-specific developments
• Feeds the Commission’s assessment with factual information on developments on the ground
Questions on horizontal developments

In this section, you are invited to provide information on general horizontal developments or trends, both positive and negative, covering all or several Member States. In particular, you could mention issues that are common to several Member States, as well as best practices identified in one Member State that could be replicated. Moreover, you could refer to your activities in the area of the four pillars and sub-topics (an overview of all sub-topics can be found below), and, if you represent a Network of national organisations, to the support you might have provided to one of your national members.

Overview topics for contribution

[Overview_topics_for_contributions_2022.pdf]

Please provide any relevant information on horizontal developments here

5000 character(s) maximum

0 out of 5000 characters used.
Questions?