

2025 Rule of Law Report - additional consultation on single market dimension

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

Introduction

The annual Rule of Law Report lies at the centre of the Annual Rule of Law Cycle, which acts as a preventive tool, deepening multilateral dialogue and joint awareness of rule of law issues. So far, five editions of the Rule of Law Report have been published since 2020.

As announced in the Political Guidelines for the 2024-2029 Commission, a Single Market dimension will be added to the Rule of Law Report to report to address rule of law issues affecting companies, especially SMEs, operating across borders.

Therefore, in addition to the regular stakeholder consultation for the 2025 Rule of Law report which was launched on 29 November 2024 (available [here](#)), **the Commission is now launching an additional targeted stakeholder consultation on the single market dimension of the rule of law**. This short questionnaire covers additional topics that are not yet included in the Report's scope which the Commission considers of particular relevance under this angle. The questionnaire is in particular directed to business stakeholders, but all interested parties are invited to contribute. The deadline for contributions is on 24 January (midnight Brussels time).

Under the questions below, you are invited to provide information both on the **relevant legal framework** as well as information on any relevant developments since January 2024. Under each question, the following types of information may be relevant:

A) Legislative developments

- Newly adopted legislation
- legislative drafts currently discussed in Parliament
- legislative plans envisaged by the Government

B) Policy developments

- Implementation of legislation
- evaluations, impact assessment, surveys
- white papers/strategies/actions plans/consultation processes
- follow-up to reports/recommendations of Council of Europe bodies or other international organisations
- important administrative measures

- generalised practices

C) Developments related to the judiciary / independent authorities

- important case law by national courts
- important decision/opinions from independent bodies/authorities
- state of play on terms, nominations and expired mandates for high-level positions (e.g. Supreme Court, Constitutional Court, Council for the Judiciary, Prosecutor General, heads of independent authorities included in the scope of the questionnaire)

D) Any other relevant developments

About you

* I am giving my contribution as

Civil society organisation/NGO

* Organisation name

250 character(s) maximum

German Bar Association - Deutscher Anwaltverein (DAV)

Please insert an URL towards your organisation's main online presence or describe your organisation briefly:

500 character(s) maximum

<https://anwaltverein.de/de/>

The German Bar Association (Deutscher Anwaltverein – DAV) is the professional body comprising about 60.000 German lawyers and lawyer-notaries in 253 local bar associations in Germany and abroad. Being politically independent, the DAV represents and promotes the professional and economic interests of the German legal profession on German, European and international level.

Transparency Register Number

Check if your organisation is in the transparency register. It's a voluntary database for organisations seeking to influence EU decision-making

87980341522-66

* Country of origin

Germany

First Name

Eva

Surname

Schriever

* Email Address of the organisation

assistentz@eu.anwaltverein.de

* Publication of your contribution and privacy settings

You can choose whether you wish for your contribution to be published and whether you wish your details to be made public or to remain anonymous.

- ☐ Anonymous - Only your type of respondent, country of origin and contribution will be published. Organisation name, URL, transparency register number, first name and surname given above will not be published. **To maintain anonymity, please refrain from mentioning the name of your organisation and any details from which your organisation can be identified in the rest of your contribution.**
- ☒ Public - Your personal details (name, organisation name, transparency register number, country of origin will be published with your contribution).
- ☐ No publication - Your contribution will not be published. Elements of your contribution may be referred to anonymously in documents produced by the Commission based on this consultation.

☒ I agree with the personal data protection provisions.

[Specific privacy statement targeted stakeholder consultation 2025 rule of law report.pdf](#)

Topics for input on the single market dimension of the Rule of Law Report

* Country covered in your contribution [only one choice possible]

If you wish to submit information concerning several countries, please fill in the questionnaire separately for each country. There is no limit to the number of contributions submitted by a single participant.

Germany

Specialisation (of judges/specific courts/chambers within courts) and training for the judiciary to deal with commercial cases.

This question complements the questions in the original questionnaire related to quality and efficiency of justice

5000 character(s) maximum

The law for "Strengthening Germany as a Place of Justice" (Gesetz zur Stärkung des Justizstandortes Deutschland) has been adopted and published in the Official Legal Journal (Bundesgesetzblatt). The Law provides for the introduction of commercial courts and the court language English in civil justice. The DAV had been calling for the introduction of English as a court language for many years, cf. DAV position paper 46 /10) and therefore welcomes the introduction of commercial courts in principle, but sees the necessity for further actions in order to strengthen the attractiveness of the German law (cf. commercial courts in Germany, Journal of International Business Law of the DAV).

Alternative dispute resolution and mediation

This question complements the questions in the original questionnaire on quality and efficiency of justice

5000 character(s) maximum

Measures for the prevention of corruption in relation to the issuing of official permits (e.g. related to environment, energy and various types of construction)

This question complements the questions in the original questionnaire on the prevention of corruption

5000 character(s) maximum

Reporting on the use of digital technologies to enhance transparency and oversight in public procurement

This question complements the questions in the original questionnaire on the prevention of corruption

5000 character(s) maximum

There have been no significant developments since January 2024. The electronic submission of tenders has been mandatory since 2018. Electronic communication with the awarding chambers works very differently, depending on the concrete awarding chamber concerned.

Safeguards to ensure legal certainty, the stability of the legal framework and non-discrimination.

This question complements the question in the original questionnaire on rules and use of fast-track and emergency procedures, linked to the overall process for preparing and enacting laws

5000 character(s) maximum

Safeguards to ensure the effective independence of supervisory and regulatory authorities with a direct impact on economic operators

This question complements the questions in the original questionnaire on the independence, resources and powers of national human rights institutions, ombudspersons, equality bodies and supreme audit institutions

5000 character(s) maximum

Respect of the good administration principle (including the obligation of the administration to give reasons for decisions)

This question complements the question in the original questionnaire on transparency of administrative decisions

Safeguards (other than judicial review) regarding decisions or inaction of administrative authorities, including remedies

This question complements the question in the original questionnaire on judicial review of administrative decisions

5000 character(s) maximum

Any other points you would like to raise related to the single market dimension in the context of the Rule of Law Report

5000 character(s) maximum

We welcome the approach taken by the European Commission to reflect on the single market dimension of the Rule of Law and, as a consequence, to include this dimension in its annual Rule of Law Report. The EU is a single market and a Rechtsgemeinschaft with a high rule of law standard in Art. 2 TEU, which is based on the depth of integration and the geographical proximity of Member States as well as the concept of mutual trust and mutual recognition. As a result, problems in one country will affect others quickly. The rule of law principle being a fundamental precondition for the functioning of the single market, one has to further analyse the interdependencies in order to strengthen both – the principles of the rule of law as well as the functioning and the development of the single market. The rule of law cannot be regarded as a purely economic factor.

If you would like to upload any supplementary document(s), please do so here

46ce0e18-4f8f-40fc-8251-d3d433652698/DAV_Position_Paper_01_25_Rule_of_Law_Report_2025.pdf

Contact

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