

European Rule of Law Mechanism: input from Member States

2026 Rule of Law Report

The written input from Member States is a key source of information for the annual Rule of Law Report, as clearly set out in the Report's methodology. As every year, the Commission would hereby like to invite the national contact points to provide their input to the 2026 Rule of Law Report. Based on this input, further targeted questions may follow, as it was the case in previous years, to ensure that the Commission has all relevant information from Member States for the preparation of the 2026 Rule of Law Report. Such further targeted input will be sought in particular in the context of country visits or bilateral contacts, as well as during the consultation on the draft country chapters prior to the Report's adoption.

The 2026 Rule of Law Report will continue to assess rule of law related developments under the existing four pillars and will follow-up on the implementation of the recommendations to Member States that were issued as part of the 2025 Rule of Law Report. To facilitate the preparation of input by Member States, this year's questionnaire has been adapted. Member States are asked to provide information about:

- (1) developments and measures taken in relation to the recommendations in the 2025 report,
- (2) developments that are relevant for updating and following up on the assessment of the topics covered in the 2025 country chapter, as well as any other new developments related to the rule of law.

The input under these points should cover any developments since the adoption of the 2025 Rule of Law Report. The annex to this request for input sets out a checklist/guidelines on relevant topics falling within the Report's scope to help Member States prepare their input, building on experience from previous years.

Nature of the contribution

The input should preferably be in English and not exceed 30 pages. Relevant legislation or other documents may be referenced with a link (no need to provide the full text). The contributions will be published on the Commission's website upon explicit consent of the Member States. In order to avoid duplication and excessive administrative burden, please include where applicable explicit references to any relevant contribution already provided by your Member State in a different context (including under Council of Europe, OECD, OSCE and UN bodies or procedures) or to the previous Rule of Law Reports. Contributions should focus on significant developments since the last Rule of Law Report both as regards the legal framework and its implementation in practice.

Type of information to be included

A) Legislative developments

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

B) Policy developments

- Implementation and enforcement 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 request for input¹)

D) Any other relevant developments

- National authorities are free to add any further information, which they deem relevant; however, this should be short and to the point.

Please also indicate whether the developments reported are linked to the implementation of reforms and investments under the RRP, where applicable.

Please send us your contribution by **23 January 2026** to the following email address: rule-of-law-network@ec.europa.eu. In case you would have any questions or requests for clarifications, please do not hesitate to contact the Commission at the same email address.

Template for input

This template for input indicates the type of contribution sought from Member States for the 2026 Rule of Law Report and provides a suggested format of reply. However, Member States are free to decide on the precise format of their contribution, as long as the key points are covered.

(1) Information on developments and measures taken to implement each of the recommendations addressed to your Member State in the 2025 Rule of Law Report

In the below box, please describe relevant developments and the measures taken with a view to implement the recommendations, following the order of the recommendations as they were addressed to your Member State in the 2025 Rule of Law Report.

Recommendation on revolving doors

The input provided in the 2025 Rule of Law report is still relevant and proposals contained in the inquiry report SOU 2023:45 on post-employment restrictions in the public sector are currently under consideration within the Government Office.

Recommendation on lay judges

The input provided in the 2025 Rule of Law report is still relevant also in relation to the recommendation on lay judges.

Recommendation on foreign bribery

Several new measures in relation to bribery in general have been taken, including on increased penalties and limitation periods, which are relevant in relation to foreign bribery. See below under II.

Further, the National Anti-Corruption Unit (NACU), within the Swedish Prosecution Authority, has initiated work to further strengthening the investigation of bribery offences. These measures will be presented in more detail in the authority's response.

¹ Such as: media regulatory authorities and bodies, national human rights institutions, equality bodies, ombudsman institutions, supreme audit institutions and, where they exist, transparency authorities.

(2) Information on:

a. developments that are relevant for updating and following up on the assessment of the topics covered in the respective country chapter of the 2025 Report, including possible clarifications

- *In the boxes below, describe developments (updates or feedback) related to the topics covered in your country chapter of the 2025 Report (if not already covered under point (1)). You are invited to follow the order of topics as presented in the country chapter and insert direct references to the country chapter text, if convenient; and*

b. any other new developments not already covered under points (1) and (2)a. that you consider relevant

- *The list of topics provided **in the Annex** can provide guidance for this input.*

I. Justice Systems

Initiatives related to the judiciary

The work with legislative amendments to further strengthen judicial independence, following the proposals regarding the Constitution, are proceeding in accordance with what has been described in the 2025 report. The project includes, among other things, consideration of proposals for a more independent court administration agency and proposals for a new disciplinary board for judges.

Initiatives related to the right to an effective remedy

Initiatives related to the right to an effective remedy are on-going. In January 2025, an all-party committee tasked with investigating issues relating to the protection of fundamental rights and freedoms delivered its report on possible amendments to the Constitution. In particular, it noted that Swedish law does not contain a generally applicable rule on the right to judicial review at constitutional level, whereas such provisions are included in the European Convention on Human Rights and the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights. The committee proposed that the right to judicial review should be enshrined in the Constitution. The Government decided not to proceed with the committee's proposal. The Government considered that it could be questioned whether the proposal provides sufficient protection for the individual's right to judicial review. The Government therefore believes that the issue needs to be investigated again and intends to give such a mandate to an all-party committee.

Initiatives related to legal assistance and legal aid

The Inquiry about legal assistance and legal costs, set up by the Government in April 2024, has submitted its final report. It proposes a series of measures to strengthen individuals' opportunities to exercise their rights in court, for example that the threshold for legal aid under the Legal Aid Act should be adjusted and that individuals, under certain circumstances, should be able to receive reimbursement of legal costs in a case before an administrative court. (For more information,

please see the summary from the inquiry in Appendix 1). The report is currently under consideration within the Government Offices and has been referred to relevant consultation bodies for consideration.

In response to the page 5 statement in the 2025 Rule of Law Report: *“These gaps include the possibility for victims and defendants to access their ongoing case electronically, accessing first instance court judgments online, or arrangements for machine readability of judgments”*, it must be clarified that the parties may, upon request, have access to all documentation in the case in electronic form.

Digitalisation of justice

The digitalisation of justice in Sweden continues to be at a very good level overall. In 2025, the Swedish National Courts Administration continued the work on developing the systems and is actively engaged in innovation work, such as the possibility of using AI to streamline operations while maintaining information security.

Court financing

The Swedish courts were granted increased financial resources for the period of 2026- 2028. In recent years, the judiciary has been allocated a substantial increase in resources as part of a broader investment in the entire judicial system. The additional resources for the courts are intended to handle an increased number of cases and improve security in the courts, as well as to build preparedness within the framework of defence.

Efficiency of the Judiciary

The number of incoming civil and commercial litigious cases has remained comparatively low also in 2024. The time needed to resolve administrative cases decreased significantly in 2024, from 7.3 months to 5.6 months, thereby achieving the government's operational target, unlike in 2023.

According to the Swedish National Courts Administration, in 2025 the courts had the highest number of cases filed (529,590), an increase of 4% compared to 2024, and made decisions in cases (520,993), an increase of 3% compared to 2024. The increase in the number of cases has been most pronounced in the district courts (89,670 ongoing cases at the end of 2024 compared to 85,086 ongoing cases at the end of 2021).

II. Anti-Corruption Framework

OECD Integrity review and framework against corruption

The OECD Integrity Review of Sweden was published in September 2025. At the time of publication, a workshop was conducted in Stockholm by the OECD with representatives from the Swedish government offices, government agencies and civil society participating. The recommendations in the report are currently being analysed in the government offices.

Within the framework of the Government's Action Plan on Corruption 2024–2027, the Government tasked the Swedish Agency for Public Management (Statskontoret), through its 2025 appropriation directions, with developing and providing a web-based training course on undue influence in public administration. The assignment is in line with a recommendation made by the OECD in its Integrity Review of the Action Plan.

The training is to be provided at a basic level and is intended for employees of government agencies, while being designed so that it can also be used by employees in municipalities and regions. It is to provide practically applicable knowledge on undue influence and its consequences, as well as on how attempts at undue influence can be prevented, identified, and managed. The training course is to be made available from 1 March 2026.

See Government appropriation directions for the Swedish Agency for Public Management, amending decision of 15 May 2025, available at: [Ändringsbeslut 2025-05-15 Myndighet Statskontoret - Statskontoret](#).

Official data

The national Anti-Corruption (Police) Unit of the Swedish Police Authority (NACPU) has published its second annual report based on its internal statistics, investigations by the NACPU and the prosecutors at the National Anti-Corruption Unit of the Prosecution Authority. The purpose of the report is to shed further light of the complexity of corruption cases. [Årsrapport från nationella antikorrupsions- och immaterialrättsgruppen 2025](#)

Update on previously reported data.

The data concerns 2024 (investigated and prosecuted offences may have been reported previous years, which may explain why the number of investigated offences concerning taking of a bribe and offering a bribe exceeds the number of reported offences).

Information on whether the cases relate to the implementation of EU or national funds or involve high level corruption is not available. Data on convictions concern first instance (data on final convictions is not available in official crime statistics). The data on convictions concern conviction decision (court sentencing, waiver of prosecution, and prosecution fine). This data is structured after principal offense, and a decision may include more than one offense. Data on sanctions is structured after principal offense and principal sanction.

Source: Official crime statistics, The Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention. Official crime statistics is available to the public at the Council's website ([Brå in English | Brå - Brottsförebyggande rådet](#)).

- **Taking of a bribe**
 - reported offenses: 76
 - investigated offenses: 91
 - prosecuted offenses: 28
 - convictions: 6
 - Sanctions: suspended sentence (4), fines (1), summary imposition of a fine (1)
- **Offering a bribe**
 - reported offenses: 67

- investigated offenses: 109
- prosecuted offenses: 31
- convictions: 15
- Sanctions: imprisonment (1), suspended sentence (4), fines (9), summary imposition of a fine (1)
- **Trading in influence/negligent financing of bribery**
 - reported offenses: 9
 - investigated offenses: 3
 - prosecuted offenses: 0
 - convictions: 0
 - Sanctions: 0
- **Malpractice by a public official**
 - reported offenses: 10 631
 - investigated offenses: 2044
 - prosecuted offenses: 43
 - convictions: 15
 - Sanctions: imprisonment (2), suspended sentence (4), fines (15), summary imposition of a fine (3), suspended sentence in summary imposition of a fine (2)
- **Breach of professional confidentiality**
 - reported offenses: 458
 - investigated offenses: 272
 - prosecuted offenses: 26
 - convictions: 9
 - Sanctions: suspended sentence (2), fines (7)

Financial intelligence center (Finuc)

A new financial intelligence center (Finuc), based on the cooperation between the Swedish Police Authority, the Swedish Tax Agency and the Swedish Economic Crime Authority together with relevant actors in the private sector, such as banks, was set up within the Police Authority on 1 April 2025 to better combat fraud, money laundering and the criminal economy. The center is to be fully developed by 31 December 2027. The center helps strengthen the authorities' ability to detect and prevent corruption-related crime. Work against corruption will be a natural part of Finuc's focus, for example by identifying irregularities in money flows or through efforts aimed at detecting insiders within banks.

Measures to enhance transparency of public decision making

In the 2025 Rule of Law Report, the Commission noted that an all-party committee has proposed introducing rules on lobbying and reforms to the regulation of political party financing. The proposals aim to provide the public with greater transparency. The committee's report ([SOU 2025:52](#)) has been circulated for consultation among courts, higher education institutions, other government agencies, municipalities, political parties and civil society organisations ([comments received](#)). The committee's proposals are currently under consideration within the Government Offices. The Government Offices have reviewed the agency's guidelines on the holding of financial instruments (SB PM 2019:3). The guidelines are relevant for Ministers, State Secretaries, other employees and contractors within the Government Offices. The guidelines include a new section concerning the risks of conflicts of interest that can arise from the holding of financial instruments. It contains clarifications regarding the various conflicts of interest that can arise from the holding of financial instruments, who is responsible for identifying such conflicts and how they can be

avoided.

The purpose of the review is to provide clearer and better support in the considerations that must take place continuously when holding financial instruments. Through the review a new way to report financial instruments has been manifested (with a form and documentation).

Criminalisation and sanctions for corruption and related offences, incl. foreign bribery

In June 2025 the Government appointed Inquiry on Criminal Law Reform proposed increased penalties for a wide range of offences ([SOU 2025:66, En straffreform](#)). On 15 January 2026, the Government decided on a draft bill based on the inquiry ([Dubbla straff för brott i kriminella nätverk och skärpta straffskalor - Regeringen.se](#)). As far as relevant to the anti-corruption legal framework, the draft bill includes increased penalties for bribery offences (including aggravated offences), gross breach of trust, gross fraud, gross embezzlement and trading in influence. After the draft bill has been subject to consultation with the Council on Legislation, the next step in the legislative process is for the Government to decide on a Government Bill to be submitted to Parliament.

The Government appointed Inquiry on Measures under criminal law against corruption and official misconduct delivered its report in July 2025 ([SOU 2025:87, Straffrättsliga åtgärder mot korruption och tjänstefel](#)). The Inquiry proposes a range of legislative amendments to the legal framework on corruption offences and sanctions, including liability for official misconduct. The report has been circulated for formal consultation with relevant stakeholders and the period of consultation ended on 7 November 2025. The proposals of the Inquiry and the responses of stakeholders are being analysed within the Government Offices.

In addition to the proposals made by the Inquiry on Measures under criminal law against corruption and official misconduct, possible legislative changes for the transposition of the forthcoming Directive on combating corruption will need to be considered.

With regard to the recommendations made by OECD in the recent Integrity Review of Sweden, see above.

Obstacles to the investigation and prosecution of high-level and complex corruption cases

New Swedish legislation on limitation periods entered into force on 1 April 2025. The reform entails a major overhaul of the rules concerning statutory limitations in the Criminal Code. Among other things, the limitation periods for serious crimes have been extended – from ten to fifteen years regarding the aggravated bribery offences (gross giving of a bribe and gross taking of a bribe). Furthermore, prison sentences imposed are no longer subject to any limitation periods. See: Regeringens proposition 2024/25:59 En modern straffrättslig preskriptionslagstiftning (prop. 2024/25:59)

Effectiveness of criminal and non-criminal measures and sanctions

Our input to the 2025 Rule of Law report on recovery measures is still relevant. As of December 2025, more than 800 cases on independent confiscation have been initiated, covering assets of more than 100 million SEK.

Whistleblowing cases

Please see Appendix 2.

III. Media Pluralism and Media Freedom

Public service – new regulation and a new public service mission.

On 22 October 2025 the Riksdag decided on the Government Bill *En lag om public service och riktlinjer för verksamheten 2026–2033* (prop. 2024/25:166), mentioned in the 2025 Report (p. 12).

The new Public Service Act (2025:986) entered into force on 2 December 2025, certain provisions apply, however, from 1 January 2026. On 4 December 2025 the Government decided on new licenses to broadcast terrestrial radio and tv and decisions regarding the remit to the public service media companies for the period 2026–2033, following the guidelines decided by the Riksdag. The new licenses and decisions entered into force on 1 January 2026.

As mentioned in the 2025 Report the Public Service Act contains provisions on the public service media companies' remit, financing, review of programmes. It also contains certain provisions regarding the appointment of board members and CEOs of the public service media companies following provisions in the European Media Freedom Act. The purpose of the new act is to bring together the regulation on public service into a single framework, in order to further define the remit, the public service mandate and to secure fundamental principles for public service. It is not intended to change the public service operations. A Public service Ordinance complements the Act.

Besides general conditions set out in law, additional conditions on content are set out in the decision regarding the remit to the public service broadcasters, which then applies on broadcasts and on-demand services regardless of distribution platform. Licenses for terrestrial broadcasts according to the Radio and Television Act may not include content related conditions.

[En lag om public service och riktlinjer för verksamheten 2026–2033 - Regeringen.se.](#)

[Lag \(2025:986\) om public service | Sveriges riksdag](#)

[Förordning \(2025:987\) om public service | Sveriges riksdag](#)

[Regeringen beslutar om de närmare villkoren för SR:s, SVT:s och UR:s public service-uppdrag de kommande åtta åren - Regeringen.se](#)

New regulation on commercial radio

The Swedish radio and television act has been amended with a new regulation on commercial radio (chapter 13). As mentioned in the 2025 Report (p.13) the licensing procedure is now the same for both analogue and digital commercial radio. The broadcasting fee is replaced with an annual fee for analogue commercial radio. The annual fee shall be calculated by allocating an amount equivalent to 3 percent of the commercial radio advertising revenues from the preceding calendar year among all available licenses, based on the population within the respective broadcasting areas covered by the licenses. If there are special reasons, the Swedish Media Authority may reduce the broadcasting fee or calculate the fee based on a different time period than the immediately preceding calendar year (chapter 13 section 15). All licenses to broadcast commercial radio expires on 31 July 2026. The Swedish Agency for the Media has initiated a licensing process for the period 1 August 2026–31 July 2034.

[Radio- och tv-lag \(2010:696\) | Sveriges riksdag](#)

[Sök tillstånd för att sända kommersiell radio - Mediemyndigheten](#)

The Report Sveriges säkerhet i etern (SOU 2023:63)

On 22 January 2026 the Government decided not to proceed with the proposals made in the report *Sveriges säkerhet i etern* (SOU 2023:63). The report suggests that a requirement for licenses to broadcast satellite, with the possibility to revoke such licenses, should be introduced. The issue is mentioned in the 2025 Report, p. 13 and in the 2024 Report p. 21.

[Regeringen går inte vidare med förslag om att införa tillståndsplikt för satellitsändningar av radio och tv - Regeringen.se](#)

Supplementary provisions to the European Media Freedom Act and to the Act on the Transparency and Targeting of Political advertising

On 26 June 2025 the Government Bill *Kompletterande bestämmelser till EU:s mediefrihetsförordning* (prop. 2024/25:197) was submitted to the Riksdag. In the bill a new act was proposed with supplementary provisions to the European Media Freedom Act regarding assessments of concentrations in the media market, notification obligations and supervision. On 12 November 2025 the Riksdag decided on the Government Bill. The new law and a new additional ordinance entered into force on 1 January 2026.

[Kompletterande bestämmelser till EU:s mediefrihetsförordning - Regeringen.se](#)

[Lag \(2025:1242\) med kompletterande bestämmelser till EU:s mediefrihetsförordning | Sveriges riksdag](#)

[Förordning \(2025:1244\) med kompletterande bestämmelser till EU:s mediefrihetsförordning | Sveriges riksdag](#)

On 11 September 2025 the Government Bill *Kompletterande bestämmelser till EU:s förordning om politisk reklam* (prop. 2025/26:4) was submitted to the Riksdag. In the bill a new act was proposed with supplementary provisions to the Regulation on the transparency and targeting of political advertising regarding supervisory powers, penalty fees for violations of the Regulation and procedural rules. On 19 November 2025 the Riksdag decided on the Government Bill. The new law and an additional ordinance entered into force on 1 January 2026.

[Kompletterande lagstiftning till EU:s förordning om politisk reklam - Regeringen.se](#)

[Lag \(2025:1408\) med kompletterande bestämmelser till EU:s förordning om politisk reklam | Sveriges riksdag](#)

[Förordning \(2025:1410\) med kompletterande bestämmelser till EU:s förordning om politisk reklam | Sveriges riksdag](#)

The Swedish Agency for the Media has been tasked to monitor compliance with both Acts. Its financial resources were increased in 2026 to address new functions including those deriving from the European Media Freedom Act and the Act on the transparency and targeting of political advertising.

[Förordning \(2023:844\) med instruktion för Mediemyndigheten | Sveriges riksdag](#)

Amendment to the Freedom of the Press Act

The Government has proposed an amendment to Chapter 2 of the Freedom of the Press Act that

exempts content on digital devices that have been seized as part of a criminal investigation from the right to access public documents. However, when information from a seized device has been added to an investigation, the right to access public documents applies to that information. The proposal means that the scope of the public access to documents corresponds to the scope of the right of access that a suspect has. In addition, it serves to better harmonize the right of access to public documents with rules of criminal procedure that forbid seizure of certain types of communication. The proposal also provides for stronger protection for individuals' personal integrity.

(Prop. 2025/26:71)

Safety for journalists

In November 2025 the Government assigned the Swedish Agency for the Media to conduct a preliminary study aiming to develop a recurring survey on threats, violence and harassment directed at journalists. The assignment includes identifying suitable methods to enable comparisons of exposure over time and identifying relevant stakeholders to collaborate with to conduct the survey during implementation. The survey should be designed so that the Agency can carry it out within its mandate to monitor issues concerning journalists' safety (the mandate is mentioned in the 2025 Report p. 14). The Agency shall leave its report on the preliminary study on 1 April 2026 at the latest.

[Uppdrag till Mediemyndigheten att genomföra en förstudie för att utveckla en återkommande undersökning av hot, våld och trakasserier riktat mot journalister - Regeringen.se](#)

Distribution of radio- and tv-programmes in the terrestrial network and via internet

In August 2024 the Government appointed an Inquiry on the Distribution of radio- and tv-programmes in the terrestrial network and via internet. An interim report from the inquiry, *Distribution av radio och tv i det nya medielandskapet* (SOU 2025:116), was submitted in December 2025. In the report the inquiry proposes, among other things, a new law on prominence of media services of general interests.

[Distribution av radio- och tv-program i ett nytt medielandskap - Regeringen.se](#)

[Tilläggsdirektiv till Distributionsutredningen 2024 - Regeringen.se](#)

[Distributionsutredningen har lämnat sitt delbetänkande till regeringen - Regeringen.se](#)

Media and information literacy

As mentioned in the 2024 Report (p. 20, note 155) the Government has assigned the Swedish Agency for the Media to, during 2024 and 2025, carry out a broad and sustainable national initiative aimed at strengthening media and information literacy among the population and increasing public awareness of how artificial intelligence (AI) can be utilized within information flows. In June 2025, and serving as a complement to the ongoing work, the Agency was assigned to promote media and information literacy by implementing measures to enhance understanding of AI and the opportunities and risks associated with it. These measures should contribute to strengthening society's preparedness and resilience against disinformation. The Agency shall leave its report on the implementation of this assignment no later than 30 April 2026. In December 2025 the task was prolonged to continue during 2026–2028. The Agency shall carry on the work already built up within the previous work to strengthen media-and information literacy and raise knowledge about AI.

[Ändringsbeslut 2025-06-19 Mediemyndigheten](#)

Illegal IP-TV

In January 2025 the Government decided on additional terms of reference to an Inquiry, Filmutredningen. The inquiry was now assigned to describe how the content of ip-tv provided without authorization from the relevant rights holders is made accessible and distributed and analyse how such ip-tv affects the Swedish film and television industry. The investigator was also tasked with analysing the need and the conditions for a ban on private individuals receiving such ip-tv and propose how such a ban should be designed, as well as, if necessary, propose other measures to counteract the distribution. In its report *Åtgärder mot illegal ip-tv* (SOU 2025:100) the inquiry suggests, among other things, that existing legislation is amended and clarified to make it clear that, in addition to physical equipment and software, it is also prohibited to use other technical solutions to gain access to illegal ip-tv services. The inquiry also suggests that the scope of the law is expanded so that private individuals, in addition to acquiring and using, may not possess equipment, such as physical devices or apps, that provides unauthorized access to a protected media service. It also suggests that the conditions for so-called live blocking of services offering illegal ip-tv should be investigated. The report is being circulated for consultation and the last day to leave comments is 22 January 2026.

[Tilläggsdirektiv till Filmutredningen - Regeringen.se](#)

[Åtgärder mot illegal ip-tv - Regeringen.se](#)

[Remiss av betänkandet Åtgärder mot illegal ip-tv \(SOU 2025:100\) - Regeringen.se](#)

IV. Other institutional issues related to check and balances

Human Rights Institute

Regarding the Swedish National Human Rights Institute, its funding remains at a stable level. In October 2025, the Government appointed two new members to the Institute's Governing Board. The new members were nominated by universities and colleges in accordance with the provisions in the law governing the Institute (lagen om Institutet för mänskliga rättigheter, Swedish Code of Statutes 2021:642).

Ethical Guidelines

The ethical guidelines for civil servants of the Government Offices (Regeringskansliet) are being revised. New guidelines are currently being prepared, and a decision is expected during 2026.

Implementation of administrative court decisions

Regarding implementation of administrative court decisions, what was stated in the Rule of Law report 2022 is still correct. There is no special authority that has the task of ex officio following up / enforcing court decisions in a broader area. An authority that has taken on a role in a court case (eg by having applied for, appealed or made a decision that has been appealed) can in some cases

act to enforce the decision (either by enforcing it itself if the authority has the question of enforcement, or by requesting enforcement from an executing authority). In addition, there are authorities whose task is to enforce court decisions in certain specific areas (examples: The Police Authority, the Swedish Prison and Probation Service, etc.). Finally, there are also authorities that can assist with the enforcement of court decisions upon application by a party, such as, for example, the Swedish Enforcement Agency. In addition to the possibility of applying for forced enforcement of the decision, there are also other legal remedies that can be used in certain cases.

Updates to the Administrative Procedure Act

On 2 July 2025, an amendment to the Administrative Procedure Act came into force. The amendment introduced legal support for omitting the decision-maker's name in certain cases in the written notifications of decisions that should be sent to individuals. The purpose of the amendment is, among other things, to reduce the risk of threats or harassment directed at public employees. For further information, see sections 31 and 33 of the Administrative Procedure Act: [The Administrative Procedure Act \(2017:900\)](#) and the amendment: [SFS2025-582.pdf](#).

Civil Society

Nothing new to report beyond what has been presented in previous years and below.

As outlined in last year's report, a new regulatory framework introducing a democracy condition for state grants from the General Inheritance Fund and for state support to religious communities came into effect on January 1, 2025. Since then, efforts have been underway to incorporate an equivalent democracy condition, consistent with that applied to the General Inheritance Fund, into the regulations governing other forms of funding to civil society. During the year, approximately 45 regulations have been amended. To assist both grant-awarding bodies and civil society organizations in the application process, the Swedish Agency for Youth and Civil Society, acting on behalf of the Government, has established a dedicated support function. This function is intended, among other objectives, to promote a uniform application of the new democracy condition – a matter of central importance to civil society and one that has also been addressed within the framework of the Rule of Law Report.

In addition to funds to the Swedish Agency for Youth and Civil Society for a support function linked to grants, the agency has also been provided with funds from 2024 to establish a function to support civil society organisations in developing the organisations' ability to handle the necessary requirements for administrative competence.

Since 2018, the government has allocated funds to meet the need for security-enhancing measures among civil society organizations whose activities are affected by fear of threats, violence, and harassment. The support is administered by the Swedish Agency for Youth and Civil Society. At present, the grant is SEK 74 million. In addition, the Jewish Central Council will receive an additional SEK 10 million in grants. The main beneficiary is, and has been since the introduction of the support, various Jewish organizations. [Säkerhetshöjande åtgärder | MUCE](#)

Strategic lawsuits against public participation

In December 2025 the government decided on a government bill regarding the transposition of EU Directive No. 2024/1069 on protecting persons who engage in public participation from manifestly unfounded claims or abusive court proceedings ('Strategic lawsuits against public participation') – the so-called anti-SLAPP Directive. The Directive provides safeguards against manifestly unfounded claims or abusive court proceedings in civil matters with cross-border implications brought against

natural and legal persons on account of their engagement in public participation.

Cross-pillar elements: cross-border rule of law issues related to the Single Market

If you are aware of any significant challenges concerning the Single Market faced by businesses or citizens from your Member State in a cross-border context relating to any of the four pillars of the report, including for example issues with market access and the conditions for economic activities, please highlight them in the box below.²

A significant cross-border challenge concerning the single market is the persistent under-notification by member states of national technical regulations and requirements under directive (EU) 2015/1535 and the services directive 2006/123/EC. Insufficient and late notification undermines legal certainty and predictability for businesses and citizens, who cannot reliably anticipate applicable rules when operating across borders.

As regards the publication of your written input, please indicate whether you³:



Consent



Do not consent

² Given the cross-cutting nature of this question, it is included as a separate section in the questionnaire. Information collected under this question will however be integrated under the relevant existing pillar(s) of the Report.

³ Should you wish to amend the input submitted ahead of the Report's publication, please simply indicate so to the Commission services which will ensure that the correct version is published.