*Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri*
*Dipartimento per le riforme istituzionali*

**2023 Rule of Law Report – Virtual Country Visit – March 20, 2023**

**Presidency of the Council of Ministers – Department for institutional reforms**

**Written contribution**

*On other issues related to checks and balances*

As far as the issue of stakeholder's engagement in law-making process is concerned, the Department for Institutional Reforms, soon after the new Government and the Minister for Institutional Reforms and Regulatory Simplification took office, has launched a consultation addressed to the key stakeholders, and especially with the main business associations, in order to better identify areas where normative simplification initiatives can focus. The consultation process came to a successful conclusion in January 2023 with approximately 30 contributions received.

In February 2023, the Minister for Institutional Reform and Regulatory Simplification signed an agreement with the National Council for Economics and Labour (CNEL) to scale up the impact of simplification policies in economic and social fields.

The cooperation with CNEL aims at gathering relevant information as well as at promoting the participation of economic and social organizations represented within CNEL's Assembly. Furthermore, the Minister signed two memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Regions of Veneto and Basilicata to share strategies of simplification for the benefit of businesses and citizens. These agreements are the first step of a broader path aimed at engaging the Italian Regions in the development of a common framework. Three more Regions are underway.

It is worth pointing out that the Minister is promoting the reduction of existing regulations as a first stage in the ongoing process for simplification and reorganization of the regulatory framework. This way regulatory quality and legal certainty will be improved. Up until now, the Minister's legislative initiative has allowed the repealing of 2.535 outdated Royal Decrees, no longer able to produce any effect, however they are still in force. The Minister's objective for the coming months is to repeal all "useless" Royal Decrees that are still in force, namely thousands of pre-republican regulations.