



RULE of LAW REPORT 2026

THE ANNUAL RULE OF LAW CYCLE 2025-2026 CYCLE - STEP BY STEP

July 2026

COMMISSION STARTS PREPARING THE 2027 RULE OF LAW REPORT

July 2025
Adoption of the sixth annual Rule of Law Report and launch of the dialogue with national parliaments, the European Parliament and among Member States in the Council. Since 2025, the Rule of Law Report includes a Single Market dimension to address rule of law issues affecting companies operating across borders.

As of Summer/Autumn 2026

The Council and European Parliament discuss the 2026 Report, including its country chapters and the follow-up to the recommendations issued in 2025. Discussion in national parliaments and with national authorities, stakeholders and civil society.

October - December 2025

The Rule of Law Network continues to provide an ongoing channel of communication between the Commission and the Member States, with the participation of the four enlargement countries included in the Rule of Law Report as observers. Member States are consulted on an updated questionnaire for the seventh Report.

17 July 2026

The Commission adopts the seventh annual Rule of Law Report, including 27 country chapters on all Member States, recommendations and follow-up to the recommendations issued in 2025; as well as four country chapters for the selected enlargement countries.

January - March 2026

The Commission receives governments' written input and around 280 stakeholder contributions about developments at national level and EU level, as well as input to the additional questionnaire on the Single Market dimension. Over 600 meetings take place across all 27 Member States and in the four enlargement countries with around 900 national authorities, independent bodies and stakeholders.

June 2026

Countries receive their draft country chapters to provide factual updates.

April - June 2026

The Commission compiles all the findings and prepares draft country chapters.