THE EUROPEAN RULE OF LAW MECHANISM

STEP BY STEP

January-February 2020: Setting up Rule of Law Network. Member States nominated rule of law contact points; first meeting of Rule of Law Network.

May 2020: Member States and other stakeholders provided written contributions; second meeting of the Rule of Law Network.

July-September 2020: Commission compiles all the findings and prepares draft country chapters.

March-May 2020: Member States consulted on the methodology and the questionnaire on the basis of which they later provided their input.

May-July 2020: Commission carries out virtual country visits.

September 2020: Member States receive their draft country chapter to provide factual updates.

Autumn 2020: EU Inter-institutional cooperation Council and European Parliament to discuss the 2020 Rule of Law Report and its country chapters.

Autumn 2020: Discussion at national level National Parliaments, national authorities, stakeholders and civil society invited to discuss the 2020 Rule of Law Report, including country chapters.

30 SEPTEMBER 2020: THE COMMISSION PRESENTS THE FIRST EVER RULE OF LAW REPORT, WHICH INCLUDES 27 COUNTRY CHAPTERS

COMMISSION TO START PREPARING THE 2021 RULE OF LAW REPORT, DRAWING ON EXPERIENCES GAINED IN THE FIRST YEAR OF THE FUNCTIONING OF THE EUROPEAN RULE OF LAW MECHANISM

Methodology
The report and 27 country chapters were prepared based on a methodology discussed with all Member States.

Contact
The Rule of Law Network was established to help set up a framework for collaboration and the methodology necessary to draw up this Rule of Law Report. The network provides a continued channel of communication between the Commission and the Member States.

Process
Throughout the process, the Commission received input from all Member States and from more than 200 stakeholders. More than 300 virtual meetings took place, including with the Member States, stakeholders and civil society.