



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 11.2.2023
C(2023) 1109 final*

Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank Senát for its Opinion on the Communication 2022 Rule of Law Report - The rule of law situation in the European Union {COM(2022) 500 final}.

The Commission welcomes the support of the Senát for the country specific recommendations in the Rule of Law Report and fully agrees with the Senate on the importance of their implementation. The Commission has already started the process for engaging in a dialogue with Member States to follow-up on the recommendations in the 2022 Rule of Law Report. The Commission also takes note of the Senát's view that it is not necessary to adopt a Code of Ethics for members of Parliament, as had been recommended by the Commission. The Commission recalls that the matter was also subject to recommendations from the Group of States against corruption (GRECO) to adopt a Code of Ethics in both chambers of Parliament and that it will report on the assessment of the implementation of the recommendations in the context of the 2023 Report.

The annual Rule of Law Report has successfully achieved key objectives of raising awareness and promoting an open discussion among EU Member States on rule of law issues, both at national and European level. Learning from each other's experience better equips Member States to find the best way forward and to prevent challenges to the rule of law to emerge or to deepen.

Both Vice-President Jourová and Commissioner Reynders will be delighted to continue the debate on the 2022 Rule of Law Report with the members of the Senát. The Commission welcomes the debates on the Commission's rule of law report within the Senát and recognises the essential role of national Parliaments in the upholding of the rule of law at national level.

Yours sincerely,

*Maroš Šefčovič
Vice-President*

*Didier Reynders
Member of the Commission*

*Miloš VYSTRČIL
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