

Statement by the Committee on the Constitution

2018/19:KU37

Summary

The Committee on the Constitution has examined the Communication from the Commission *Further strengthening the rule of law within the Union*.

The Committee values the fact that the Commission is continuing its efforts to promote and defend the principle of the rule of law. Respect for human rights and the rule of law are fundamental in a democracy.

The Committee shares the Government's concern regarding developments in the field of the rule of law. The Committee therefore welcomes the fact that the Commission has initiated a discussion on how to improve the instruments available to the EU institutions for protection of the Union's fundamental values, including respect for the rule of law. The Committee considers it of great importance that the instruments available are used and that new ones can contribute to strengthening the application of the principle of the rule of law within the Union.

The EU's fundamental values are non-negotiable, which the Government also emphasises. In the opinion of the Committee, the broader discussion on further strengthening the rule of law initiated by the Commission is important, and the Committee will follow continued work on this subject.

The examined document

The Communication from the Commission *Further strengthening the rule of law within the Union - State of play and possible next steps* (COM (2019) 163).