



European Commission



# RULE of LAW REPORT 2020

September 2020

## 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.

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

**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.

### 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.