

EN
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Answer given by Mr McGrath
on behalf of the European Commission
(30.9.2025)

The annual Rule of Law Report covers all Member States objectively and on an equal footing, fully in line with the Report's methodology that has been discussed with the Member States and is publicly available on the Commission's website¹. The assessments, and consequently also the recommendations, contained in the Report are based on a careful analysis of the situation in each Member State as well as information and evidence provided by a broad variety of sources, including national authorities, civil society and international institutions.

The Rule of Law Report already covers four areas of systemic importance: national justice systems, anti-corruption frameworks, media pluralism and media freedom and other checks and balances. However, it is not foreseen to extend the material scope of the Rule of Law Report to cover the protection of minorities. The report is only one part of a broader effort at EU level to strengthen the founding EU values, including democracy, equality, and respect for human rights. This includes the 2020 Strategy to strengthen the application of the Charter of Fundamental Rights in the EU² with its thematic annual reports and targeted strategies to address the needs and challenges of specific groups of rights holders. As stated in the Charter strategy, as guardian of the Treaties, the Commission continues to monitor the implementation and enforcement of the fundamental rights in the Member States and may decide to take appropriate action, including by launching infringement proceedings as appropriate.

¹ https://commission.europa.eu/document/72742fd9-3ce0-4d23-9086-58f885f84cdd_en.

² COM(2020) 711 final.