

EN
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Answer given by Mr McGrath
on behalf of the European Commission
(7.1.2026)

The 2025 Rule of Law Report¹ recommended that Spain should strengthen efforts to address the challenges related to the length of investigations and prosecutions to increase the efficiency in handling high-level corruption cases, including by finalising the reform of the Code of Criminal Procedure. Second, Spain should strengthen the statute of the Prosecutor General, in particular regarding the separation of the terms of office of the Prosecutor General from that of the Government, taking into account European standards on independence and autonomy of the prosecution and acknowledge that while the then draft law regarding ‘accion popular’ stated objective, considering a ruling of the Supreme Court, was to prevent perceived abuses of this mechanism, some stakeholders had criticised the planned reform, considering its envisaged limitations excessive and undermining in practice the value of this mechanism.

The Commission monitors carefully the implementation of all recommendations included in the 2025 Rule of Law Report and continues following national developments, including in Spain, and engaging with the national authorities and relevant stakeholders in this respect.

The Commission’s assessment of steps taken to meet the recommendations will be set out in the next edition of the Rule of law Report in 2026.

¹ https://commission.europa.eu/publications/2025-rule-law-report-communication-and-country-chapters_en.