

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000811/26
to the Commission
Marcin Sypniewski (ESN)
(26 February 2026)**

Subject: Rule of law and financial conditionality

In recent years, the Commission has taken action against Poland in relation to the rule of law situation, including initiating a procedure under Article 7 TEU, proceedings before the CJEU, the conditionality mechanism and the blocking of funds from the Recovery and Resilience Facility. In the opinion of many citizens and Member States, the application of the rule of law criterion in the allocation of EU funds is arbitrary in nature, undermines the predictability of funding and can be perceived as a tool for the imposition of political pressure.

In light of the above:

1. Does the Commission currently consider Poland to be in full compliance with the standards of the rule of law? If so, on what basis?
2. Did Poland fail to meet these standards between 2015 and 2023? If so, please indicate the specific legal principles — objectively recognised throughout the EU — that were violated.
3. What specific legislative or institutional changes introduced after 2023 demonstrate, in the Commission's view, an improvement in the rule of law situation?

Submitted: 26.2.2026

**Answer given by Mr McGrath on behalf of the European Commission
(29 April 2026)**

In May 2024, the Commission decided to formally close the procedure of Article 7 of the Treaty on European Union (TEU) for Poland, by withdrawing its reasoned proposal that had triggered this procedure in 2017.

The decision to close the article 7 procedure followed a thorough analysis which concluded that 'a clear risk of a serious breach' of the rule of law no longer exists ⁽¹⁾.

The concerns regarding the situation of the rule of law in Poland between 2015 and 2023 have been clearly set out in the Commission's reasoned proposal under the article 7 TEU procedure, in several judgments of the Court of Justice, and in the Commission's Rule of Law Reports.

The Commission continues to monitor rule of law related developments in Poland, including progress made by Poland to implement the action plan on the Rule of Law, in the annual Rule of Law Reports ⁽²⁾.

⁽¹⁾ See the Commission press release of 6 May 2024 IP/24/2461, https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/api/files/document/print/lv/ip_24_2461/IP_24_2461_EN.pdf.
⁽²⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/bac7fb6c-b5f2-4593-b62a-b9a4b87269e4_en?filename=2025%20Rule%20of%20Law%20Report%20-%20Country%20Chapter%20Poland.pdf.