

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR JUSTICE AND CONSUMERS

The Director-General

Brussels JUST.C.1/AK/jm/ (2024)5544797

Excellency,

On 24 July 2024, the Commission adopted the fifth annual Rule of Law Report. I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude for the excellent cooperation of Estonia with the Commission in this process, which is essential for the quality of the Report. I look forward to the next edition of the horizontal rule of law dialogue in the Council in September and the country-specific dialogue in November on this basis.

In the 2024 Report, the Commission provided its assessment of the follow-up given by Member States to the recommendations included again in the 2023 Report, following their introduction in 2022. Overall, the Report shows that substantial efforts have continued to implement the recommendations, while also acknowledging that certain reforms may take longer to bear fruit. Let me therefore reiterate that the Commission stands ready to assist Member States in their efforts to follow-up on these recommendations. In this context, should you find such assistance helpful, I would like to offer, as also done in previous years, the opportunity of organising a meeting at technical level to discuss the follow-up to the 2024 Rule of Law Report and its recommendations.

I would be very grateful if you could channel this information to your capital. In case there is an interest in such follow-up by you or representatives from your capital at the level deemed appropriate, I would invite you to let my team and me know by using the functional mailbox rule-of-law-network@ec.europa.eu. For the organisation of such a meeting, including the involvement of the relevant national authorities as well as the other involved Commission services, we would rely on the cooperation of your national Rule of Law contact point (in cc).

This offer for follow-up meetings, is, of course, complementary to the already ongoing meetings and exchanges at political level between Ministers and Commissioners.

Rest assured that I am at your disposal, should you wish to discuss these matters further.

Yours faithfully,

(e-signed) Ana GALLEGO

John Watson, Deputy Secretary-General of the European Commission; c.c.:

Kadi Karus, Adviser, Legislative Policy Department, Ministry of Justice

of the Republic of Estonia

H.E. Aivo Orav Permanent Representative of Estonia

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