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E-002269/2022

Answer given by Mr Reynders  
on behalf of the European Commission  
(17.11.2022)

On 13 July 2022, the Commission published the 2022 Rule of Law Report<sup>1</sup>. The country chapter on the rule of law situation in Spain highlights that the pending renewal of the Council for the Judiciary remains a concern. The report also refers to further calls by stakeholders to modify the Council's appointment system in line with European standards so that no less than half of its members are judges elected by their peers. The Commission notes that on 14 July 2022 the Spanish Parliament approved a reform allowing the Council for the Judiciary to proceed with the appointment of members of the Constitutional Court.

As part of its recommendations addressed to Spain in the context of the 2022 Rule of Law Report, the Commission recommended to proceed with the renewal of the Council for the Judiciary as a matter of priority and initiate, immediately after the renewal, a process in view of adapting the appointment of its judges-members, taking into account European standards.

The Commission will continue following the situation within the framework of its annual Rule of Law Report.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/default/files/23\\_1\\_194017\\_coun\\_chap\\_spain\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/default/files/23_1_194017_coun_chap_spain_en.pdf)