Press release | 30.01.2019

Council must act on Hungary

Rule of law

Today, the European Parliament will debate developments around the rule of law in Hungary after the European Parliament voted on the Rule of Law in Hungary report in September 2018. The report recommended that the Council initiate Article 7 proceedings against the Hungarian government. So far the Council has yet to act on the report.

Judith Sargentini, Greens/EFA MEP and rapporteur on the rule of law in Hungary report comments:

"Throughout the Council's inaction on Hungary since the September European Parliament vote we've seen plenty of action from Viktor Orbán's government. They have introduced a 'slave law' forcing people to work overtime without pay, they have made life so difficult for a major international university that it's had to move to Vienna, all while tightening their grip over the media.

"Hungary is sliding down a dangerous route to authoritarianism. The brave Hungarian citizens protesting know this and international observers know this, and it's time that the Council of the European Union recognise this. We cannot foster autocracy within our Union, which is supposed to be based on democracy and the rule of law. So long as other EU governments stay quiet on the dire situation in Hungary, they are encouraging Orbán to continue on his anti-democratic path.

"If Manfred Weber and the rest of the European People's Party genuinely want to listen to the voices of European citizens, they should speak to Hungarians who are currently seeing their rights stripped away. Every day that Fidesz remains in the ranks of the EPP is an endorsement of the kind of authoritarian policies that run counter to the very values that the EU is built on."

The debate can be followed live here shortly: http://www.europarl.europa.eu/plenary/en/home.html

Recommended

Press release

Tim Hurst (CC BY-SA 2.0)



Methane Regulation: European Parliament capitulates to…

22.10.2026

Press release

European Council



[Meet Nicolae Ștefănuță at the Summit of Heads of State…]

15.10.2026

Letter

Photo by Markus Spiske on Unsplash



[MFF: Statement of the leaders of EPP, S&D, Renew Europ…]

12.10.2026

Press release

©Les Films de l'Europe



[New Co-Presidents Terry Reintke and Nicolae Ștefănuță …]

06.10.2026

Responsible MEPs



Judith Sargentini

Member

Contact person



Alex Johnson

Please share

- E-Mail