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NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council

Subject: Values of the Union - Hungary - Article 7(1) TEU Reasoned Proposal -
scope of the hearing of Hungary on 18 November 2022

1. On 12 September 2018, the European Parliament adopted a reasoned proposal for a Council decision determining, pursuant to Article 7(1) of the TEU, the existence of a clear risk of a serious breach by Hungary of the values on which the Union is founded¹.
2. The provisional agenda for the Council meeting (General Affairs) on 18 November 2022 includes an item ‘Values of the Union – Hungary – Article 7(1) TEU reasoned proposal – hearing of Hungary in accordance with Article 7(1) TEU’.
3. On 18 July 2019, the Council approved standard modalities for hearings referred to in Article 7(1) TEU². These modalities set out that the substantive scope of the issues to be covered by a hearing must be agreed by Coreper in keeping with the scope of the issues raised in the reasoned proposal triggering the procedure of Article 7(1) TEU.
4. Hungary was heard by the Council four times: on 16 September 2019, 10 December 2019, 22 June 2021, and 23 May 2022.

¹ 12266/1/18 REV 1 + ADD 1.

² 10641/2/19 REV 2.

5. On 15 September 2022, the European Parliament adopted a resolution on the abovementioned proposal.
6. Considering that important developments may have taken place, it is suggested that the fifth hearing of Hungary could cover all the issues raised in the reasoned proposal of the European Parliament, in order for the Council to receive an up-to-date picture of the situation in the Member State in question.
7. In the light of the above, Coreper is invited to agree to this arrangement.
