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EU accession negotiations – the judiciary in the country of Serbia (European Commission 2019 report)



Regarding the country of Serbia, recently the opening of negotiations on chapter no. 2 on the “freedom of movement of workers” was rejected, because a certain number of member states objected to the opening of new chapters, the reason for this being that the country of Serbia had insufficiently made progress in the field of rule of law.

Eurofedop’s member organisation JEFS, the trade union of judiciary employees of Serbia, has on many occasion expressed its concern about the failing performance of Serbia in the judiciary field. Not only there is a constant lack of staff, but, as a result, the number of cases waiting for a court decision is still substantial.

The European Commission indicates in its report of 2019 that, regarding the functioning of the judiciary, progress has been made, but the scope for political influence remains a concern. Serbia has to make significant progress on strengthening the independence of the judiciary and the autonomy of the prosecution. Moreover, it needs to adopt a human resources strategy for the entire judiciary that leads to a measureable improvement in efficiency and effectiveness of the justice system.