

**Ms Khadija Arib**  
Speaker of the House of  
Representatives of the States-General

Ref ► J.Dem. 127 - SGM/ja

Strasbourg, 17 March 2021

Dear Madam Speaker,

I thank you for your letter of 25 February 2021, whereby you convey to me the decision of the House of Representatives of the Netherlands to request an opinion of the Venice Commission on the rule of law in the Netherlands.

The two questions which you have put are complex and sensitive, as they relate, as you stress, to the heart of the Dutch Rule of Law. I wish to express my gratitude, on behalf of the Commission, for the trust with you have decided to place in our work.

I will inform the Commission of this request at the upcoming Plenary Session (19-20 March 2021) and we will start preparing the opinion immediately afterwards. As is the usual procedure, the designated rapporteurs will ask to meet with the Dutch authorities, state institutions and stakeholders during the preparation of the opinion.

I would be grateful if you could provide us as you kindly offer, with a translation into English of the Report of the Parliamentary Interrogation Committee on Childcare Allowance.

We will contact the staff of the House of Representatives in the coming weeks with more details about the procedure, and seeking assistance to organise the meetings (online or in person, as the health situation will allow).

I remain at your disposal for any query you may have.

Yours faithfully,



**Simona Granata-Menghini**  
Director, Secretary of the Venice Commission.