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*Status: This is the revised version from EUR-Lex dated 01/03/2020. There are no timeline of changes available for treaties, instead, previous dated versions from EUR-Lex (as pdf from 1992 onwards) can be accessed via the More Resources menu. This treaty has changed its name over time, originally signed in Rome in 1957 as the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community (The Treaty of Rome) then becoming Treaty establishing the European Community. Its title is now Treaty on the functioning of the European Union.*

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## Consolidated version of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union

### PART SIX

#### INSTITUTIONAL AND FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

##### TITLE I

#### INSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS

##### CHAPTER 1

#### THE INSTITUTIONS

##### SECTION 5

#### THE COURT OF JUSTICE OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

##### *Article 259*

##### **(ex Article 227 TEC)**

A Member State which considers that another Member State has failed to fulfil an obligation under the Treaties may bring the matter before the Court of Justice of the European Union.

Before a Member State brings an action against another Member State for an alleged infringement of an obligation under the Treaties, it shall bring the matter before the Commission.

The Commission shall deliver a reasoned opinion after each of the States concerned has been given the opportunity to submit its own case and its observations on the other party's case both orally and in writing.

If the Commission has not delivered an opinion within three months of the date on which the matter was brought before it, the absence of such opinion shall not prevent the matter from being brought before the Court.