



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 19 VI 2014
C(2014) 3963 final*

Dear President,

The Commission wishes to thank the Senát for its Opinion on the Commission's "Annual Growth Survey 2014" {COM(2013) 800 final}.

The Commission welcomes the Senát's endorsement of the five main political priorities of economic policy in the European Union for 2014. The Commission believes that it is crucial to stick to the strategy of economic reforms and that a determined reform effort to respond to economic challenges at the national level continues to be essential.

The Annual Growth Survey (AGS) adopted on 13 November 2013 marks the start of the 2014 European Semester of economic policy co-ordination. The Commission underlines the importance of national Parliaments in this process and reiterates its commitment to explain and discuss, in those national Parliaments that would request it, the AGS as well as the Country-Specific Recommendations, once endorsed by the European Council.

Concerning the reservations expressed by the Senát, the Commission would like to refer to its earlier reply to the Senát's Opinion on the Commission's "Recommendation for a Council recommendation on the Czech Republic's 2013 national reform programme and delivering a Council opinion on the Czech Republic's convergence programme for 2012-2016" {C (2014) 20 final}. In this document, the Commission answered to similar questions and laid forward arguments supporting its recommendations.

The Commission's analysis is confirmed by its Recommendation for a Council recommendation on the Czech Republic's 2014 national reform programme and delivering a Council opinion on the Czech Republic's 2014 convergence programme and the accompanying staff working document "Assessment of the 2014 national reform programme and convergence programme for the Czech Republic", published on 2 June 2014.

The Commission hopes that the clarifications address the issues raised by the Senát and looks forward to continuing our political dialogue in the future.

Yours faithfully,

*Maroš Šefčovič
Vice-President*

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