

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

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Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Riksdag for its Opinion on the Reflection Paper on the Future of EU Finances {COM (2017) 358 final}.

In March 2017 the Commission published the White Paper on the future of the European Union at 27, followed by five reflection papers: on the social dimension of Europe, on deepening the Economic and Monetary Union, on globalisation, on defence and on the future of European Union finances. Together the papers lay out a range of ideas, concepts and possibilities in order to start a wide-ranging and open debate about the future of the European Union.

The paper on the future of Union's finances in particular presents the Commission's analysis of current challenges with which the European budget is faced together with a set of potential measures on both the revenue and the expenditure side to address them. The paper stresses the importance of rethinking European Union finances in the aftermath of the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the Union, and depicts possibilities, reform options, risks and trade-offs for the future of Union's finances, according to five illustrative scenarios.

The Commission appreciates the Riksdag's detailed analysis of the ideas put forward in the Commission's reflection paper, and takes note of the Riksdag's views over several aspects of the future Multiannual Financial Framework, in relation to both expenditure and revenue.

The Commission looks forward to a constructive and positive debate on its proposals for the next Multiannual Financial Framework, presented in May and June 2018, and to continuing our political dialogue in the future.

Yours faithfully,

Frans Timmermans First Vice-President Günther H. Oettinger Member of the Commission

Mr Urban AHLIN Speaker of the Riksdag SE – 100 12 STOCKHOLM