



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 25 JUL. 2012  
C(2012) 5088 final

*Dear President,*

*The Commission would like to thank you for the Opinion of the Bulgarian Parliament on the EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies up to 2020 {COM(2011) 173 final} and apologises for the delay in replying.*

*We welcome the Bulgarian Parliament's acknowledgment of the efforts of the European Commission towards Roma integration expressed in this strategic document.*

*The EU Framework for national Roma integration strategies reflects an unprecedented political commitment by all key players. The social and economic inclusion of Roma is a priority for the European Union both in its internal and enlargement policy. However, significant work remains to be done by the Member States. The European Commission is committed to help the Member States in their efforts by using the legal, policy and financial instruments which are already in place but also by making them more effective.*

*I am pleased to inform you that all EU Member States honoured their commitments and presented their national Roma integration strategies. It is considered to be a great achievement and a first step in the implementation of the EU framework.*

*The Commission adopted its assessment of these strategies on 21 May 2012 and the Commission Communication has been presented to the European Parliament and Council.*

*Ms Tsetska TSATCHEVA  
President  
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*It is true that we are still at the beginning and the extent of the challenge is huge. However, let me reassure you that the Commission will remain firmly committed to supporting Roma inclusion in Europe.*

*I am looking forward to our fruitful cooperation in achieving tangible results in this respect.*

*Yours faithfully,*

*Maroš Šefčovič  
Vice-President*