THE PARLIAMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC SENATE



7th term

256th RESOLUTION

OF THE SENATE

delivered on the 9th meeting held on 22nd July 2009

on Proposal for a Council Framework Decision on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings, and protecting victims, repealing Framework Decision 2002/629/JHA

(Senate Press no. M 043/07)

The Senate

I. 1. Is aware

of the social gravity and awfulness of trafficking in human beings that by its nature always leads to violation of fundamental rights of individuals and often also to immense human suffering;

2. States

that with regard to the cross-border nature of trafficking in human beings it is necessary to fight against it effectively both on the European and international levels of cooperation;

II. 1. Is of the opinion

that there is need for definition of "unlawful activities" in the Article 1, paragraph 3 of the proposal, as the term appears very broad and unclear with regard to the obligation of Member States to penalize such activity, impacting on the principle of legal certainty;

2. Is convinced

that instead of general and overall non-application of sanctions according to Article 6 of the proposal, the (non-)prosecution and (non-)imposition of penalties should be based on individual assessment by the competent body as there might arise situations where these persons in a certain phase have voluntarily taken part in a criminal activity;

3. Recommends

clarification of Article 8 with regard to the use of the term "habitual residence" as it is not commonly used in all Member States;

4. Proposes

with regard to the nature of the proposal to asses the possibility of prolongation of the period for adoption of necessary measures;

III. 1. Requests

the Government to inform the Senate about the way this position was taken into account and to provide the Senate with further information on the proceeding of negotiations;

2. Authorizes

the President of the Senate to forward this resolution to the European Commission.

Přemysl Sobotka sign manual President of the Senate

Rostislav Slavotínek sign manual Senate Verifier