

Brussels, 21 SEP. 2010
C/2010/6420

Dear President,

The European Commission welcomes and has taken note of the Opinion adopted on 20 May by the Czech Senate on the Commission proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and the Council on the right to interpretation and to translation in criminal proceedings {COM (2010)82}.

In relation to the Senate's remarks concerning the co-existence of two legislative initiatives on the same subject-matter, the Commission considers that the outcome of the legislative process has shown that the presence of these two concomitant initiatives did not hamper in any way the adoption of a balanced, high-quality legislative text, which draws on both the Member States' initiative and the Commission proposal.

The Commission also wishes to reassure your Assembly that the Directive in its final version has taken due account of Member States' concern about public expenditure and is confident that the adoption of this measure, the first of those foreseen in the Roadmap endorsed by the Heads of State and Government at the European Council of December 2009, will result in fair trial rights being upheld in a more systematic and streamlined way across the EU.

I am looking forward to further developing our policy dialogue,

Yours sincerely,

*Mr. Přemysl Sobotka
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the Parliament of the Czech Republic
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