

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC SENATE

8th TERM

115th

Resolution of the Senate

delivered on the 4th meeting held on 27th January 2011

on the Communication from the Commission concerning the development of a Single European Railway Area (Senate Press no. K 134/07)

Senate

I.

1. Assumes

that it is necessary to promote the rail transport because it plays a key role in developing effective integrated transport systems and enlarges the spectrum of modes of transport which helps to decrease dependence on other means of long distance public transport;

2. Supports

for this reason Commission's efforts to create a Single European Railway Area by means of completing the process of opening the rail transport to competition, revision and simplification of the EU legal framework within the scope of the recast of the first railway package, and mobilisation of appropriate resources within the next EU multi-annual financial framework;

II.

1. Points

to the particular situation of the Czech Republic which administrates a uniquely dense railway network, the maintenance of operability, modernisation and development of which require considerable financial resources;

2. **Is therefore of the opinion**

that multi-annual national strategies for development proposed by the Commission in the revision should take into account initial situation and capacities of member states from the time, material and financial perspective;

3. Is convinced

that proposed application of principles of internalisation of external costs will lead to unnecessary increase in regulatory burden;

4. Draws attention

in this regard to the fact that the Commission's proposal introducing charges for noise pollution puts rail transport at a disadvantage compared to road transport;

5. **Supports**

the position of the Government in the frame of the recast of the first railway package, mainly its efforts to:

- specify and clearly define the scope of the Commission's competences;
- preclude large-scale transfer of competences related to the regulation and supervision of the competition in the railway sector to a single national regulatory body;

III.

1. Requests

the Government to inform the Senate about the way this position was taken into account and about follow-up initiatives;

2. Authorises

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

Milan Štěch sign manual President of the Senate

> Miroslav Škaloud sign manual Senate Verifier