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**THE SENATE
OF THE PARLIAMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC
8TH TERM**

425TH

RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE

Delivered on the 14th session held on 7 December 2011

on the Annual report 2010 on relations between the European Commission and national parliaments /Senate Press no. K 068/08/

The Senate

I.

1. Got acquainted

with the report in which the Commission evaluates its relations with the national parliaments in the first full year of implementation of the Lisbon Treaty;

2. Is aware

of the fact that the actual impact on the EU legislative process of the new powers entrusted to national parliaments in the Lisbon Treaty cannot be evaluated solely on the basis of quantitative data;

3. Perceives

new instruments given to national parliaments in the Lisbon treaty in particular as a stimulating factor capable of enhancing their more intensive participation in the process of formulation of EU policies and contributing to strengthening of their responsibility for the development of the EU;

4. Is nevertheless convinced

that effective inter-parliamentary cooperation is a necessary precondition for successful participation of the national parliaments in the efforts aimed at better EU law making;

II.

1. Is of the opinion

that the coordination potential of the Conference of Parliamentary Committees for Union Affairs (COSAC) has not been fully employed;

2. Recommends

to establish, in the framework of COSAC, a procedure for the Commission Work Programme to be discussed, so that the national parliaments can exchange information on their intention to deal with particular draft legislative acts,

especially those potentially sensitive as regards their compliance with the subsidiarity principle;

3. Observes with satisfaction

that the platform of permanent representatives of national parliaments in the EU has developed into an efficient instrument of exchange of information and flexible communication;

4. Draws attention

to the fact that effective sharing of information on parliamentary scrutiny of compliance with the subsidiarity principle is hindered by differing interpretation of the concept of "reasoned opinion" throughout individual parliamentary chambers;

5. Would welcome

the European Commission to publish complete lists of timely delivered reasoned opinions on particular draft legislative acts;

6. Observes with regret

that the database for inter-parliamentary exchange of information (IPEX) still does show significant imperfections, in particular as regards timeliness of uploading of information and availability thereof in working languages of the EU;

7. Appreciates

therefore, that the Committee on Legal Affairs of the European Parliament provides and publishes translations to all EU official languages of all reasoned opinions; the Senate suggests that those translations are published also in the IPEX database;

8. Is prepared

to continue to devote enhanced attention to communication documents since it is convinced of the necessity of early debate on further development of EU policies in the pre-legislative phase;

9. Invites

in this regard the European Commission to pay due attention in the framework of the political dialogue to opinions of the national parliaments on communication documents;

10. Would welcome

substantive dialogue with the Commission in respect of all opinions, in particular those on green papers, albeit in a longer time period than in the standard three months;

III.

Authorises

the President of the Senate to forward this Resolution to the European Commission, to the European Parliament and to the Council of the EU.

Milan Štěch
sign manual
President of the Senate

Soňa Paukrtová
sign manual
Senate Verifier