



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 22.11.2012
C(2012) 8156 final

Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Senát for its support for the proposal for a Regulation establishing the "Erasmus for all" programme {COM(2011) 788 final}, and apologises for the delay in replying.

The Commission welcomes the overall appreciation of the proposal, particularly with regard to mobility aspects, new skills acquisition and the personal development of young people, as well as the potential positive impact of mobility on the improvement of the quality of educational institutions. It is also convinced that the programme "Erasmus for all" will make a significant contribution to the Europe 2020 strategy and its main objectives.

The Commission further welcomes the favourable comments regarding the proposed increase of resources for education and fully shares the objective of better employability of young people in the labour market.

It takes note of the request for a clear differentiation between the different components, a separate programme for non-formal education, as well as for keeping the current brand names. However, the Commission would like to recall the need for an integrated approach at European level, in order to increase coherence and strengthen the lifelong learning approach through a simpler, streamlined architecture. This will ensure a good balance between harmonisation and flexibility.

As regards the concerns expressed about a need for clarification of the different roles of Erasmus for All and the European Social Fund, in order to avoid duplication, the Commission will work actively to ensure overall consistency and complementarity with all other relevant Union funding sources, including the ESF, as indicated in Article 19 of the proposal of the Regulation. In this context, and in order to avoid any duplication with the ESF, the Commission, for example, sees it as essential to discontinue the current action relating to the mobility of people in the labour market, as this will be financed through the ESF.

I look forward to continuing our political dialogue in the future.

Yours faithfully,

*Maroš Šefčovič
Vice-President*

*Mr Milan ŠTĚCH
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of the Parliament of the Czech Republic
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