



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 17 IX 2013
C(2013) 5876 final

Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Senát for its Opinion concerning the Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions: The Digital Agenda for Europe - Driving European growth digitally {COM(2012) 784 final}.

The Commission welcomes the Senát's awareness of the important role that information and telecommunication technologies play in ensuring the competitiveness of the European economy. It also welcomes the Senát's support to initiatives aiming to build computer networks, increase computer literacy, develop public electronic services, strengthen cyber-security and complete the single digital market at an EU level. These very much tally with the Commission's priorities.

The Digital Agenda was released under the banner "Every European Digital" and the Commission is determined to ensure that all EU citizens benefit from the advantages that can be derived from ICT and digital technologies. In this context, the Digital Agenda encourages and welcomes strategies at national level on broadband development and electronic government. The Commission is keen to take advantage of synergies wherever possible to ensure implementation of the Digital Agenda at local, national and European level.

The Commission shares the Senát's concerns on personal data, which must be protected from abuse, and agrees on the need to ensure that intellectual property protection on the internet should not unreasonably limit the freedom of net users. The Commission intends to engage positively and constructively with stakeholders during the policy development process in these areas.

The Commission hopes that these clarifications address the issues raised by the Senát and looks forward to continuing this dialogue in the future.

Yours faithfully,

*Maroš Šefčovič
Vice-President*

*Mr Milan ŠTĚCH
President of the Senát
Valdštejnské náměstí 17/4
CZ – 118 01 PRAGUE 1*