



THE SENATE  
OF THE PARLIAMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

9<sup>TH</sup> TERM

366<sup>TH</sup>

**RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE**

Delivered on the 15<sup>th</sup> session held on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2013

**on the Communication from the Commission to the Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions - Action Plan for a competitive and sustainable steel industry in Europe**

**(Senate Press No. K 076/09)**

**The Senate**

**I.**

**1. Welcomes**

that through this Action Plan, the European Commission devotes attention to the European steel industry that the Senate considers to be an important sector needed in other key industries, especially with regard to the major challenges that the European steel industry has been facing in recent years, such as growing competition from non-European countries, rising energy prices or high regulatory burden;

**2. Perceives positively**

the Commission's efforts to identify factors affecting the competitiveness of the steel industry in the EU and to propose possible solutions in cooperation with relevant actors such as steel companies or associations;

**II.**

**1. Supports,**

in general, the Commission's initiative in the form of this Action Plan, including its basic pillars;

**2. Agrees**

that a cumulative cost assessment in the steel industry should be carried out to evaluate the overall regulatory burden, because individual environmental and energy policies are often created separately and thus do not form an unified and coherent regulatory framework, which can have a negative impact on the competitiveness of individual businesses;

**3. Points out,**

in this context, that the Czech steel industry has to deal with significant additional cost burden due to European legislation, in particular investments in more environmentally friendly technologies or costs of supporting renewable energy sources that steel companies pay in the price of electricity;

**4. Notes**

that where the maintenance of production is no longer economically viable even with use of modern technology, the social dimension must be emphasized and appropriate programmes to support redundant workers must be set up;

**III.**

**1. Requests**

the Government to inform the Senate about further initiatives following this Communication;

**2. Authorises**

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

Milan Štěch  
sign manual  
President of the Senate

Hassan Mezian  
sign manual  
Senate Verifier