



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 15.6.2016  
C(2016) 3437final*

*Dear President,*

*The Commission would like to thank the Senát for its Opinion on the Communication "Upgrading the Single Market: more opportunities for people and business" {COM(2015) 550 final}.*

*The Commission welcomes the general support of the Senát for the actions set out in the Communication which seek to modernize the Single Market.*

*The Single Market is one of Europe's greatest achievements. By allowing people, services, goods and capital to move more freely in the world's largest economy (with a GDP of EUR 14 trillion), the Single Market offers enormous opportunities for European businesses and greater choice and lower prices for consumers. It enables citizens to travel, live, work and study wherever they wish. But these benefits do not always materialise because Single Market rules are not known, not implemented or simply undermined by other barriers. At the same time, the Single Market needs to evolve so that innovative ideas and innovative business models can find their place.*

*This explains why the Commission has decided to adopt the Single Market Strategy to respond to the above-mentioned challenges. This links in with the Commission's other objectives mapped out in the Commission Work Programme. The Single Market Strategy is an important part of the Investment Plan for Europe and follows up on the Digital Single Market Strategy as well as on the Capital Markets Union.*

*The Commission appreciates the Senát's support for the specific initiatives mentioned in its Opinion, such as the measures to assist small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and start-ups, the removal of barriers to the Single Market, the modernization of the standardisation system as well as the optimisation of public procurement within the Single Market.*

*Mr Milan ŠTĚCH  
President of the Senát  
Valdštejnské náměstí 17/4  
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*The points made above are based on the Communication on the Single Market Strategy adopted by the Commission on 25 October 2016. The initiatives are being implemented in coordination with the European Parliament and the Council.*

*The Commission looks forward to continuing the political dialogue with the Senát in the future.*

*Yours faithfully,*

*Frans Timmermans  
First Vice-President*

*Elżbieta Bienkowska  
Member of the Commission*