



THE SENATE
OF THE PARLIAMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

10. FUNKČNÍ OBDOBÍ

340TH

RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE

Delivered on the 19th session held on 2nd March 2016

**on the Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of Regions
Enlargement Strategy of the EU**

/Senate Press no. K 46/10/

The Senate

I.

1. Notes

that it has been focusing on the enlargement policy of the EU for a long time and supports the EU enlargement process;

2. Recalls

its Resolution No. 411 of 29th January 2014, in which the Senate perceived the EU enlargement policy as a successful, effective and credible instrument for the stimulation of reform efforts in countries aspiring to membership and in which was aware that the policy of the further enlargement of the EU is a long-term and complex process based on the fulfilment of equal accession criteria for all countries, be they of economic or political nature;

II.

1. Points out

that it perceives Turkey as a strategic partner of the EU and is aware of its role within the region, which is growing mainly as a result of the current security threats as well as current migration and refugee crisis, however, on the other hand emphasises the need of strengthening the rule of law (including fighting against organized crime) and fundamental rights in the country;

2. Positively evaluates

the effort of Montenegro to make progress in the reforms of the judicial system and the rule of law;

3. Appreciates

the progress of normalisation of bilateral relations between Serbia and Kosovo and urges both sides not to lessen the efforts in this matter;

4. Welcomes

the signature of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement with Kosovo and entry into force of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement with Bosnia and Herzegovina and as well the official application for accession to EU, submitted by Bosnia and Herzegovina on the 15th February 2016;

5. Emphasises

that although Albania achieved the candidate status, the commenced the reforms must continue at least at the same pace;

6. Points out

that the aspiring countries of Western Balkan represent key partners for the EU for successful managing of the migration crisis;

III.

1. Requests

the Government to inform the Senate about the way this position was taken into account, and 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

Karel Kratochvíle
Sign manual
Senate Verifier