



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

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C(2017) 8493 final*

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

Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Senát for its Opinion on the Reflection Paper on the Deepening of the Economic and Monetary Union {COM(2017)291 final}.

The Commission welcomes the commitment of the Senát to the stability of the Economic and Monetary Union and its broad support for the proposals to strengthen it, as outlined in the Reflection Paper. The Commission has adopted this comprehensive set of proposals on 6 December 2017¹.

The Commission agrees with the Senát on the need to maintain the integrity of the internal market, in accordance with the Single Market Strategy, and the principle of cooperation and equal treatment of all Member States. In the Reflection Paper on the Deepening of the Economic and Monetary Union, the Commission pointed out that the relationship between the euro area countries and other Member States is fundamental for the future of the Economic and Monetary Union. It is the view of the Commission that all Member States have an interest in designing the future of the Economic and Monetary Union.

Regarding the Senát's call for an analysis of the results of the first phase of the deepening of Economic and Monetary Union, the Commission refers to its Reflection Paper, which builds on the Five Presidents' Report of June 2015 and is intended both to stimulate the debate on the Economic and Monetary Union and to help reach a shared vision of its future design. The Paper sets out concrete steps that could be taken by the time of the European elections in 2019, as well as a series of options for the following years, when the architecture of the Economic and Monetary Union would be completed.

¹ COM (2017) 821, COM (2017) 822, COM (2017) 823, COM (2017) 824, COM (2017) 825, COM (2017) 826 and COM (2017) 827.

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

Yours faithfully,

*Frans Timmermans
First Vice-President*

*Valdis Dombrovskis
Vice-President*