



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 10.04.2018
C(2018) 1979 final*

Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Senát for its opinion on the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a framework for screening of foreign direct investments into the European Union {COM(2017) 487}.

This proposal forms part of a broader package of measures aiming to design a new legal framework to enable Europe to protect its essential interests against foreign direct investment (FDI) that may pose a threat to security or public order. At the same time, the Commission aims at maintaining an open and welcoming environment for foreign direct investment into the European Union, which is essential for its economic growth, jobs creation and resulting sustainable development.

The Commission is pleased that the Senát shares the view that action at the Union's level is necessary and welcomes the general support for the proposal. The proposal, which is one of the 31 legislative priorities for 2018-2019 for a more united, stronger and more democratic Union, is in the legislative process involving both the European Parliament and the Council. As the Senát will know, the Council and the European Parliament are currently undertaking technical work on the legislative proposal.

The Commission would like to confirm its readiness to engage with Member States with a view to clarifying in the ongoing legislative process the scope of information to be provided by those Member States that do not have a national foreign direct investment screening system in force. Besides this, the Commission expert group on the screening of FDI into the EU will also provide for a general discussion on investment trends with Member States. As regards the recommendation of the Senát to further specify the information to be shared by Member States on a mandatory basis, the Commission will consider it constructively if co-legislators express an interest to this end.

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

Yours faithfully,

*Frans Timmermans
First Vice-President*

*Cecilia Malmström
Member of the Commission*

*Mr Milan Štěch
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