



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 12.10.2018
C(2018) 6636 final*

Dear Chair,

The Commission would like to thank the Poslanecká sněmovna for its Opinion on the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the marketing and use of explosives precursors {COM(2018) 209 final}.

The proposal is part of a package of measures aiming to further curtail the space in which terrorists and criminals operate – denying them the means needed to plan, finance and carry out crime. Homemade explosives have been used by terrorists in many attacks in Europe over the past years. The proposal intends to close this security gap by strengthening the current rules on marketing and use of explosives precursors.

The Poslanecká sněmovna submits that there should be more than one year between the date of entry into force of the Regulation and its date of application, in order to reflect the average duration of the legislative process in the Czech Republic.

The Commission duly takes into consideration the average duration of the legislative process in the Member States of the European Union. Nevertheless, the Commission considers that a one-year period is sufficient in the case of this proposed regulation. In this respect, it should be kept in mind that EU regulations are binding in their entirety and directly applicable in all Member States (Art. 288 TFEU). Moreover, the legislative changes that might be required in view of applying the proposed regulation are relatively limited, taking into account that it builds upon the existing legal framework. Furthermore, the existing gaps in the current legal framework that are being addressed through the proposed regulation present serious risks to the security of our citizens, and therefore swift action is required.

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

Yours faithfully,

*Frans Timmermans
First Vice-President*

*Julian King
Member of the Commission*