



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 9.1.2019
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*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 proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing 'Erasmus': the Union programme for education, training, youth and sport and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013 {COM(2018) 367 final}.

Building on the success of the current Erasmus+ programme, the future programme (2021-2027) will provide learning and mobility opportunities to 12 million people thanks to the doubling of its budget. The new programme's outreach will be more inclusive and will cover school pupils, higher education students, trainees, teachers, trainers, youth workers, sport coaches, learners in vocational education and training and adult learning staff, while making it easier for people with fewer opportunities to participate.

The Commission is convinced that the next Erasmus programme will effectively support key political objectives such as building a European Education Area by 2025 and delivering on the Rome Declaration of 25 March 2017¹, which called for 'a Union where young people receive the best education and training and can study and find jobs across the continent'.

The Commission therefore strongly welcomes the Senát's support for the Commission proposal for an ambitious and simplified Erasmus programme. It encourages the Czech authorities to avail themselves of the opportunities offered by the programme, including those highlighted in the Senát's Opinion, such as linguistic support for mobility and the mobility of teachers.

¹ Declaration of the leaders of 27 member states and of the European Council, the European Parliament and the European Commission; <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2017/03/25/rome-declaration/pdf>

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

Yours faithfully,

*Frans Timmermans
First Vice-President*

*Tibor Navracsics
Member of the Commission*