



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 11.12.18
C(2018) 8385 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 on the European Regional Development Fund and on the Cohesion Fund {COM (2018) 372 final} and on the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on specific provisions for the European territorial cooperation goal (Interreg) supported by the European Regional Development Fund and external financing instruments {COM (2018) 374 final}.

The Commission welcomes the Senát's support for the aims of both proposals and has taken due note of the views expressed by the Senát with regard to the thematic concentration. The thematic concentration is an essential element of the Commissions' proposal, and thorough discussions on the subject matter are indeed expected to follow during the negotiations of the above proposals.

The Commission values the Senát's early engagement at this stage of the policy making process. Both the proposal for the European Regional and Development Fund and the Cohesion Fund Regulation and the proposal for the European territorial cooperation goal Regulation form a very important part of the overall post 2020 legislative package.

Discussions between the co-legislators, the European Parliament and the Council, concerning the European Regional Development Fund and the Cohesion Fund as well as European territorial cooperation goal (Interreg) proposals are now underway and the Commission remains hopeful that an agreement on the legislative package concerning cohesion policy will be reached in the near future.

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

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

Yours faithfully,

*Frans Timmermans
First Vice-President*

*Corina Crețu
Member of the Commission*