



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 19.10.2018
C(2018) 6634 final*

Dear Chair,

The Commission would like to thank the Poslanecká sněmovna for its Opinion concerning the 2018 Communication on the European Union Enlargement Policy {COM(2018) 450 final}.

The Commission welcomes the support of the Poslanecká sněmovna for the European Union enlargement policy. The enlargement process continues to be built on established criteria and fair and rigorous conditionality. Each country is assessed on the basis of its own merit. The assessment of progress achieved and the identification of shortcomings aim to provide incentives and guidance to the countries to pursue the necessary far-reaching reforms. The Commission remains fully committed to supporting the candidate countries and potential candidates in their reform efforts. The implementation of these reforms will allow them to progress on their European paths.

The Commission continues to engage with Turkey as a key partner. However, Turkey has been significantly moving away from the European Union. The Commission has called on Turkey to reverse the current negative trend in the areas of the rule of law and fundamental rights as a matter of priority.

We agree with the Poslanecká sněmovna that both Belgrade and Pristina need to substantially deepen their engagement in the Dialogue, including the implementation of all agreements.

The Commission would like to thank the Poslanecká sněmovna for its engagement with the enlargement process and looks forward to continuing the political dialogue in the future.

Yours faithfully,

*Frans Timmermans
First Vice-President*

*Johannes Hahn
Member of the Commission*

*Mr. Ondřej BENEŠÍK
Chairman of the Committee for European Affairs
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*cc Mr. Radek VONDRÁČEK
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