



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 21.6.2019  
C(2019) 4536 final*

*Dear President,*

*The Commission would like to thank the Poslanecká sněmovna for its Opinion on the Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions — A coordinated plan on artificial intelligence {COM(2018) 795 final}.*

*It appreciates that the Poslanecká sněmovna decided to analyse the coordinated plan and welcomes the support for the proposed measures.*

*The Commission welcomes the Opinion of the Poslanecká sněmovna and its objective to build one of the European centres of excellence in Prague based on Prague.ai. Under the current Horizon 2020 programme, the Commission plans to support networks of Artificial Intelligence excellence centres and proposes to continue such effort in the future under the future Horizon Europe programme. Moreover, from 2021 with the new Digital Europe programme, the Commission plans to shape Europe's digital transformation to the benefit of citizens and businesses.*

*Discussions between the Commission and the Member States concerning the criteria for the establishment and financing of world-leading testing and experimentation sites for Artificial Intelligence-powered products and services are now underway.*

*The Commission takes seriously the concerns expressed by the Poslanecká sněmovna regarding automated decision-making in areas where human rights are at stake, such as military, judicial, health or information publishing and the wish to define red lines for using Artificial Intelligence. The Ethics Guidelines for Trustworthy Artificial Intelligence were prepared by the High-Level Expert Group on Artificial Intelligence, an independent*

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*expert group established by the Commission in June 2018, consisting of 52 representatives from academia, civil society and industry. The document is meant to offer guidance to the Artificial Intelligence community on how to ensure that the use of Artificial Intelligence in the Union is ethical and trustworthy; The Artificial Intelligence community can voluntarily apply the guidance. The document has undergone a broad stakeholder consultation. The Guidelines argue for a human-centric approach to Artificial Intelligence, stressing that the development and use of Artificial Intelligence should not be seen as a means in itself but aiming at to increasing human well-being. The Guidelines are addressed to all relevant stakeholders developing, deploying or using Artificial Intelligence, encompassing companies, organisations, researchers, public services, institutions, individuals or other entities.*

*The Commission has taken due note of the views expressed by the Poslanecká sněmovna regarding the emerging social problems of workers in the sectors threatened by the development of Artificial Intelligence. The Commission has also tasked a high-level expert group of stakeholders, including academics, industry and civil society organisations, with an analysis of the impact of digitisation on EU labour markets. Among their recommendations, the experts call upon different actors on the labour market to reduce structural skill gaps, especially for women, in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, workers at risk of automation and the low-skilled. Personal learning trajectories should allow workers to acquire relevant skills throughout their careers in order to keep up with rapidly transforming, digital labour markets. New labour relations should intensify and better organise a dialogue of workers and social partners, especially in the platform economy. Social protection against unemployment, sickness and other life circumstances should be accessible independently of employment status.*

*The Commission believes that the political dialogue with national Parliaments is essential for linking the institutions and the citizens of the European Union, and looks forward to continuing it with the Poslanecká sněmovna in the future.*

*Yours faithfully,*

*Frans Timmermans  
First Vice-President*

*Mariya Gabriel  
Member of the Commission*