



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

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C(2019) 829 final*

*Mr Ondřej BENEŠÍK
Chair of the Committee for
European Affairs of the
Poslanecká sněmovna
Sněmovní 4
CZ – 118 26 PRAGUE 1*

*cc Mr Radek VONDRÁČEK
President of the Poslanecká
sněmovna
Sněmovní 4
CZ – 118 26 PRAGUE 1*

Dear Chair,

The Commission would like to thank the Poslanecká sněmovna for its Opinion on the Commission Work Programme for 2019 {COM (2018) 800 final}.

The Commission welcomes the thorough analysis of its Work Programme for 2019 made by the Poslanecká sněmovna. It particularly welcomes the Poslanecká sněmovna's support to put forward as main priorities completing the digital single market and internal market, Brexit preparedness, health protection, energy and climate policies, common visa policy, strengthening the international role of the euro, and a more united, stronger and more democratic Union in communication terms.

The Commission welcomes as well the long-term priorities identified by the Czech Government including the multiannual financial framework for the years 2021-2027, strengthening the relevance of cohesion policy, own resources and fair taxation of the digital economy.

The Commission takes note of the opposition of the Poslanecká sněmovna to an extension of qualified majority voting at Union level. However, it is of the opinion that a debate should be launched on the use of qualified majority voting to allow more efficient decision-making in key fields of taxation and social policies, so that the European Union's Single Market legislation can keep pace with economic and societal developments, as well as in several targeted areas of our external relations to offer the right decision-making tools for our Common Foreign and Security Policy. To contribute to this debate, the Commission presented in January 2019 a Communication 'Towards a more efficient and democratic decision making in EU tax policy'¹ and intends to publish this spring a similar Communication in relation to the EU social policy.

¹ COM(2019) 8 final

The Commission looks forward to the involvement of the Poslanecká sněmovna on the above topics and to continuing our political dialogue in the future.

Yours faithfully,

*Frans Timmermans
First Vice-President*