



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 16.8.2021
C(2021) 6121 final

Dear Chair,

The European Commission would like to thank the Poslanecká sněmovna for its Opinion on the Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council and the Council – A common path to safe and sustained re-opening {COM(2020)129 final}, on the Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on a framework for the issuance, verification and acceptance of interoperable certificates on vaccination, testing and recovery to facilitate free movement during the COVID-19 pandemic {COM(2021)130 final} and on the Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on a framework for the issuance, verification and acceptance of interoperable certificates on vaccination, testing and recovery to third-country nationals legally staying or legally residing in the territories of Member States during the COVID-19 pandemic {COM(2021)140 final}.

The Commission appreciates that the Poslanecká sněmovna decided to analyse these proposals and welcomes their conclusion that the proposals comply with the principle of subsidiarity. The Commission furthermore expresses its satisfaction with the swift agreement on the above-mentioned proposals, allowing for the adoption of the Regulations establishing the EU Digital COVID Certificate on 14 June, and for their application as of 1 July 2021.

Given the technical complexity of vaccines, facilitating broad industry co-operation based on voluntary solutions is the best way to rapidly maximise the availability of vaccines in the EU and globally and to tackle new variants. There are already numerous examples of collaboration and licensing in the EU and other countries. In this regard, it is very important to ensure and preserve the necessary incentives, such as patents, to develop innovative solutions and technologies that will be critical to overcome the ongoing pandemic. We need to use measures that respond to our current needs and preserve the incentives to innovate and invest in health-related research. The challenges posed by COVID-19 variants show very clearly that constant innovation and investment are key for dealing with the current crisis.

Mr Ondřej BENEŠÍK
Chair of the Committee on European Affairs
of the Poslanecká sněmovna
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Cc Mr Radek VONDRÁČEK
President of the Poslanecká sněmovna
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The Commission believes that the political dialogue with national Parliaments is essential for bringing the European Union closer to the citizens and is looking forward to continuing the dialogue with the Poslanecká sněmovna in the future.

Yours faithfully,

*Janusz Wojciechowski
Member of the Commission*

*Didier Reynders
Member of the Commission*