



**PARLIAMENT
OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC**
Chamber of Deputies
Ondřej Benešík
Chairman
Committee for European Affairs

Prague, 22nd May 2018

Dear Mr. President,

I would like to inform you about the opinion of the Committee for European Affairs of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic

on the Commission staff working document - Country Report Czech Republic 2018: Accompanying the document Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Central Bank and the Eurogroup - European Semester 2018: Assessment of progress on structural reforms, prevention and correction of macroeconomic imbalances, and results of in-depth reviews under Regulation (EU) No 1176/2011 /Council No. 6356/18, SWD(2018)202 final/.

The respective document was included in the agenda of the 11th session of the Committee for European Affairs and were scrutinized on 9th March 2018. According to the Rules of Procedure of the Chamber of Deputies the State Secretary for European Affairs of the Government Office and representatives of the European Commission Representation Office in the Czech Republic were present at the session to introduce the preliminary Government's Framework Position.

After the hearing of the rapporteur's review and after the discussion the Committee has adopted the resolution No. 79 **in the context of the Political Dialogue** which is enclosed to this letter.

Yours sincerely

Enclosure

Mr. Jean-Claude Juncker
President of the European Commission
B r u s s e l s

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PARLIAMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC
Chamber of Deputies
Committee for European Affairs

Resolution No. 79

11th Session on 9 May 2018

the Commission staff working document - Country Report Czech Republic 2018: Accompanying the document Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Central Bank and the Eurogroup - European Semester 2018: Assessment of progress on structural reforms, prevention and correction of macroeconomic imbalances, and results of in-depth reviews under Regulation (EU) No 1176/2011 /Council No. 6356/18, SWD(2018)202 final/

Conclusions of the Resolution:

Committee for European Affairs

1. **takes into account** the Country Report Czech Republic 2018 (SWD(2018) 202 final) and the Government's Framework Position on it;
2. **calls on** the Government to create a positive business environment in compliance with the recommendations contained in the Country Report Czech Republic 2018. In particular to **put emphasis on reducing the administrative burden on entrepreneurs** in the context of Government's efforts to remove redundant bureaucratic processes in public administration. The Government should also **change** as quickly as possible **the building regulations**, their complexity leads to a large overhang of housing demand over its supply and to a disproportionate rise in housing prices;
3. **appeals to** the Government to continue in implementing initiatives to secure access to public services and to make appropriate efforts to improve the poor state of e-government; in accordance with its program statement and the Program Digital Czech Republic;
4. **appreciates the progress made in the field of science and research**, in particular regarding measures creating relations between the academic and business spheres, and **calls on** the Government to build on the work of the previous government in this area, to try to eliminate the fragmentation of the public system support for research, development and innovation and its management and **submit the new law draft on support for research, development and innovation**;
5. since the main structural problems of the Czech Republic is the continuing low attractiveness of the teaching profession, **the Committee reminds the Government** of the need for systematic long-term support for pedagogical staff at all levels of the education system by ensuring adequate initial and continuing education, appropriate working conditions and adequate salary;

6. in accordance with its resolutions adopted in this election period, **appeals to the Government to support** actively the development of language competences with an emphasis on both mother tongue and foreign languages. Considers the knowledge of foreign languages to be the key competence of a person in the time of the globalized economy of the 21st century and therefore **calls on the Government** to pay more attention to language education, considering the fact that the Czech Republic has lagged behind this competence for a long time;
7. **authorizes** the Chair of the Committee for European Affairs to forward this resolution to the President of the European Commission **in the context of the Political Dialogue**.