



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

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Mr Horst SEEHOFER  
Präsident des Bundesrates  
Leipziger Straße 3 - 4  
D-10117 BERLIN

Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Bundesrat for its contribution to the public consultation on family reunification of third-country nationals launched by the Commission's Green Paper {COM(2011) 735 final}. Your contribution will be taken into account in the follow-up of this consultation process.

Please be informed that - as foreseen by the Green Paper itself - all contributions are published on the Commission website as from 2 March 2012.<sup>1</sup> In addition a public hearing was organised on 31 May/1 June.

The Commission has been analysing the great number of contributions<sup>2</sup> and has prepared a synthetic and comparative analysis.<sup>3</sup>

The policy follow-up will be decided at a later stage. However, as it stands, the majority of the stakeholders do not think that the Directive should be modified, but ask for more efficient implementation of the present rules and/or the issuance of guidelines.

The Commission is also considering bringing together experts to explore how the application of the Directive could be improved.

We will of course duly inform national Parliaments on further developments concerning this file.

Yours faithfully,

Maroš Šefčovič  
Vice-President

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<sup>1</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/yourvoice/consultations/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/yourvoice/consultations/index_en.htm) which than hyperlinks to the DG HOME Europa website: [http://ec.europa.eu/homeaffairs/news/consulting\\_public/consulting\\_0010\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/homeaffairs/news/consulting_public/consulting_0010_en.htm)

<sup>2</sup> As of 15/03/12 we have received 111 contributions, from Member States institutions, international and national organisations and individuals.

<sup>3</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/yourvoice/consultations/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/yourvoice/consultations/index_en.htm) which than hyperlinks to the DG HOME Europa website: [http://ec.europa.eu/homeaffairs/news/consulting\\_public/consulting\\_0010\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/homeaffairs/news/consulting_public/consulting_0010_en.htm)