



Hungarian National Assembly
Committee on European Affairs

Opinion of the Committee on European Affairs

by virtue of Article 145 of Resolution 10/2014 (II.24.) OGY on certain provisions of the Rules of Procedure

concerning the following communications of the European Commission:

- a) **A stronger global actor: a more efficient decision-making for EU Common Foreign and Security Policy**, COM (2018) 647
- b) **Towards a more efficient and democratic decision making in EU tax policy**, COM (2019) 8
- c) **More efficient decision-making in social policy: Identification of areas for an enhanced move to qualified majority voting**, COM (2019) 186

The Committee

- recalling the exchange of views with the representative of the Prime Minister's Office on its meeting of 11 June 2019, underlines that the applicable decision-making procedures concerning the relevant policy areas and the implied voting mechanisms in the Council are laid down by the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union;
- draws the attention to the fact, that the equality and the protection of the Member States' interest are ensured by the unanimity principle applied in the field of common foreign and security policy; therefore firmly opposes each proposal aiming at the amendments to the status quo;
- is convinced that the unanimity decision-making procedure in the Council applied in the field of Union tax policy works smoothly and ensures the adoption of the necessary EU level measures;
- therefore, firmly opposes the proposal on the limitation of the Member States' sovereignty in the field of tax policy, since it would diminish the fair tax competition stimulating the competitiveness of the Member States;
- is particularly concerned that the extension of the qualified majority voting to further areas of social policy is based on an inter-institutional proclamation of 2017 which is legally non-binding but supported to its objectives;
- underlines that the national characteristics and differences are protected values in the field of social policy, which are guaranteed only by the current practise of unanimity decision-making procedure;
- states that the decision on the possible extension of areas falling under the qualified majority decision-making procedure, belongs – according to the Treaties – to the exclusive competenc of the European Council or the Council of the European Union;

- recalls, that if passerelle regulations of Article 48 (7) of the Treaty on the European Union are applied, national Parliaments are vested with a six month consideration and opposition competence.

Budapest, 28 October 2019