



**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 European Commission's 2020 Communication on EU enlargement policy**

(hereinafter referred to as: Communication)

[COM(2020) 660]

The Committee

- reminding to the exchange of views on the Communication with Mr Olivér Várhelyi, commissioner for Neighbourhood and Enlargement of the European Commission at the Committee meeting of 1 December 2020, stresses its commitment towards the Western Balkans enlargement of the European Union;
- welcomes, that with the reallocation of resources, the European Commission earmarked significant amounts of assistance to the benefit of the countries of the Western Balkans for crisis management and to mitigate the socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic;
- supports the new approach of the European Commission towards the enlargement, however it considers that the credibility of enlargement policy depends first and foremost on the acceleration of ongoing accession negotiations as well as the opening of such negotiations with North-Macedonia and Albania;
- urges the effective implementation of infrastructural, energy and digital developments envisaged by the European Commission with a view to bringing the Western Balkans closer to the EU single market;
- is of the opinion that the Economic and Investment Plan for the Western Balkans would help to unleash the untapped economic potential of the region, thus contributing to increase competitiveness and maintain economic stability;
- confirms that deepening good neighbourly relations and the regional cooperation are preconditions for the long-term stability and economic prosperity of the Western Balkans region;
- considers as priority that the European Commission supports and facilitates the integration of the countries of the Western Balkans in line with the priorities of the Zagreb summit;

- urges the European Commission – with a view to promoting negotiations on the EU’s migration and asylum policy – to recognise the acceding countries as eligible to the denomination of save third country with the opening of their accession process.

Budapest, 22 February 2021