



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 11.01.2012
C/2012/ 52 final

Dear President,

The Commission thanks the Senate of the Italian Republic for its opinion on the proposal for a Directive on the use of Passenger Name Record (PNR) data for the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of terrorist offences and serious crime {COM(2011) 032 final}.

We have studied your Opinion carefully and I am hereby enclosing our comments. Allow me to start by apologising for our delay in replying to your opinion.

The Commission welcomes the Italian Senate's positive Opinion on the value of the proposal in the prevention and detection of terrorism and serious crime. It also welcomes your assessment of the compliance of the proposal with the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality, as well as the acknowledgement of the correctness of the legal bases chosen for the proposal.

The proposed directive aims to guarantee the highest possible level of data protection and is the result of a very careful assessment of the issues at stake. It aims to safeguard security whilst fully respecting fundamental rights and the principle of proportionality.

As regards your specific points on the justification of all the elements in the list of PNR data in the Annex to the proposal, and the caution on the issue of intra-EU flights, the Commission takes due note and will take them into account during the discussions of the proposal in the Council and European Parliament.

We look forward to pursuing our political dialogue, on this and other matters of interest to the European citizen.

Yours faithfully,

Maroš Šefčovič
Vice-President

Renato SCHIFANI
President of the Senate
of the Republic
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