EUROPEAN COMMISSION



Brussels, 14.03.2014 C(2014) 1572 final

Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Senato della Repubblica for its Opinion concerning the Proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (Eurojust) {COM(2013) 535 final}.

The Commission is pleased to note the support of the Senato della Repubblica. It has carefully analysed its comments and will consider them further in the ongoing interinstitutional negotiations.

As regards the comments made on the wording of Article 3(2) of the Proposal, the aim of the Commission is to provide Eurojust with a wide competence by including criminal offences which are "related" to the list of offences listed in Annex 1 to the Regulation. The Commission agrees with the Senato della Repubblica that the wording of the Article defining the competence of Eurojust has to be sufficiently precise.

Article 41 provides indeed for a privileged relationship between Eurojust and the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO). This is not only necessary because Article 86 TFEU stipulates that the European Public Prosecutor's Office should be established "from Eurojust", but also because the two organisations will need to work very closely together on cases falling within their respective competences.

One of the objectives of the reform of Eurojust is to strengthen the democratic control of Eurojust including the involvement of national Parliaments. In this respect the Commission has taken good note of the suggestions of the Senato della Repubblica to ensure effective parliamentary oversight.

The Commission hopes that these clarifications address the issues raised by the Senato della Repubblica and looks forward to continuing our political dialogue in the future.

Yours faithfully,

Maroš Šefčovič Vice-President

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