



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 6.4.2016
C(2016) 1733 final*

*Mr Pietro GRASSO
President of the
Senato della Repubblica
Piazza Madama, 1
IT – 00186 ROME*

Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Senato della Repubblica for its Opinion concerning the proposal for a Regulation on the cross-border portability of online content services {COM(2015) 627 final} and welcomes the Senato della Repubblica's support for the proposal which forms part of the Digital Single Market Strategy for Europe presented in May 2015¹.

The Commission concurs with the Senato della Repubblica that the European consumers should be able to benefit from the new rules on cross-border portability when roaming charges end in 2017. The Commission will endeavour to achieve this and will work with its institutional partners, the European Parliament and the Council to facilitate an agreement as soon as possible. The Senato della Repubblica's support in this process is highly appreciated.

The Commission takes note of the Senato della Repubblica view that simplified and non-burdensome procedures should be provided to allow online content service providers to adapt to the new rules. In its proposal, the Commission has strived to achieve a high level of legal certainty for market players, thereby allowing them to adapt to the new rules in an efficient manner.

The Commission is pleased to note that the Senato della Repubblica underlines that the subsequent actions implementing the Digital Single Market Strategy should be adopted by means of legislative proposals that ensure the greatest possible uniformity and equality of conditions in the Internal Market. Indeed, a Connected Digital Single Market is among the top priorities of the Commission².

¹ <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1447773803386&uri=CELEX:52015DC0192>.

² See the Roadmap for completing digital single market initiatives http://ec.europa.eu/priorities/digital-single-market/docs/roadmap_en.pdf

The points made above are based on the initial proposal presented by the Commission which is currently in the legislative process involving both the European Parliament and the Council in which your government is represented.

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

Yours faithfully,

*Frans Timmermans
First Vice-President*

*Günther H. Oettinger
Member of the Commission*