



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 15.6.2016
C(2016) 3378 final*

Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Senato della Repubblica for its Opinion on the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on a European travel document for the return of illegally staying third-country nationals {COM(2015) 668 final}.

The Commission welcomes the support provided by the Senato della Repubblica to the proposal. As rightly pointed out by the Senato della Repubblica, the objective of the proposal is to facilitate the recognition of the travel document by third countries for return and readmission of irregular migrants, thereby reducing the administrative burden on the consular authorities of these countries and speeding up the procedure for return. This should, in turn, also help reduce the time that returnees spend in detention before being returned and readmitted to their countries.

The proposal is currently being discussed with the Council and the European Parliament. The Commission is looking forward to the adoption of the proposed Regulation, and to further cooperate with the Italian authorities on return and readmission policy.

The Commission looks forward to continuing the political dialogue with the Senato della Repubblica in the future.

Yours faithfully,

*Frans Timmermans
First Vice-President*

*Dimitris Avramopoulos
Member of the Commission*

*Mr Pietro GRASSO
President of the
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