



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 16.1.2017  
C(2017) 25 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 amending Regulation (EU) 230/2014 of 11 March 2014 establishing an instrument contributing to stability and peace {COM(2016) 447 final}.*

*With this proposal, the Commission honours the commitment made in its 2016 Work Programme to further develop instruments to enhance security and development in partner countries and to support them in improving security sector reform and capacity building in support of security and development.*

*Improving the capacity of partner countries to prevent and manage crises by themselves in support of the rule of law is a priority for the Commission and with this proposal the EU would be able under exceptional circumstances to provide assistance to all relevant security sector actors, including military actors. The proposal is in line with the United Nations' (UN) 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development, and in particular with Sustainable Development Goal 16 which calls for building capacities at all levels to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime.*

*On the question of mobilising all instruments provided for by the Treaties with a view to providing effective support to the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) missions, the Commission would like to inform the Senato della Repubblica that the High Representative and the Commission have also adopted, in order to maximize the impact, efficiency and consistency of EU support, elements for an EU-wide strategic framework to support Security Sector Reform {JOIN(2016) 31 final} that brings together CSDP and all other relevant Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) tools as well as development co-operation instruments, in compliance with their respective legal bases, primary objectives and decision-making procedures.*

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

*The Commission remains committed to enhancing, collectively with all EU actors, the coordination of activities across all instruments and will ensure in particular that the measures adopted under this proposal are complementary to and consistent with measures under Title V of the Treaty on European Union.*

*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.*

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

*Yours faithfully,*

*Frans Timmermans  
First Vice-President*

*Federica Mogherini  
High Representative*