



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 30.5.2017
C(2017) 3417 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 on the Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications {COM(2016) 591 final}.

This proposal forms part of an ambitious package of European Union telecoms rules designed to meet the growing connectivity needs of European citizens and businesses and boost Europe's competitiveness¹. In proposing these measures, the Commission is delivering on the promise in its Communication of May 2015, A Digital Single Market Strategy for Europe², to present an ambitious overhaul of the regulatory framework for electronic communications with the view to, inter alia, ensure a more effective regulatory institutional framework to make the telecom rules fit for purpose as part of the creation of the right conditions for the Digital Single Market.

The proposed new European Electronic Communications Code³ entrusts the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications with additional tasks to ensure that the regulatory framework is implemented consistently and foster the development of the electronic communications market throughout the Union. Both proposals aim at strengthening the institutional role of the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications and enhancing its governance structure by turning it into an agency in order to make it fit for carrying out its future tasks.

¹ http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3008_en.htm.

² COM(2015) 192 final.

³ COM(2016) 590 final/2.

The Commission welcomes the broad support of the Senato della Repubblica for the objectives of the proposal to enhance the role of the Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications Regulation, in particular the simplification of the existing governance structure and the strengthened coordination between national regulatory authorities to ensure harmonised rules and their effective application. The Commission also appreciates that the Senato della Repubblica recognises that the proposal complies with the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality and takes note of its call that the principle of non-discrimination should be ensured so as to guarantee a geographical balance in the composition of the Agency.

The Commission will bear in mind the views of the Senato della Repubblica in the context of the ongoing legislative process involving both the European Parliament and the Council, where your government is represented. The Commission looks forward to continuing our political dialogue in the future.

Yours sincerely,

*Frans Timmermans
First Vice-President*

*Andrus Ansip
Vice-President*