



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 10.7.2017
C(2017) 4531 final

Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Senato della Repubblica for its Opinion on the Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 2003/59/EC on the initial qualification and periodic training of drivers of certain road vehicles for the carriage of goods or passengers and Directive 2006/126/EC on driving licences {COM(2017) 47 final}.

The Commission welcomes the Senato della Repubblica's broad support for the aims of the proposal and its assessment that the proposal respects the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality and is pleased to have the opportunity to comment concerning the observations included in the opinion.

Concerning the content of the training, the Commission fully agrees with the Senato della Repubblica's view on the importance of road safety and for this reason has proposed that this topic be part of every periodic training.

The Commission notes the suggestion in the Opinion to set up a standardised certificate of professional training or "libretto europeo della formazione" in digital format in order to ensure the traceability of the initial and periodic training, whose content could be exchanged via digital tools between Member States for the purpose of verifying the compliance with the Directive.

While the Commission shares the view that it is essential for the content and quality of the training to be in accordance with the Directive and that it is also important to ensure that drivers across the European Union comply with the training obligation, the proposal leaves this verification in the hands of the Member States where the training was followed. The Commission did not propose an electronic exchange of information on drivers training since, according to the impact assessment, it appeared to imply significant administrative costs.

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

Yours faithfully,

*Frans Timmermans
First Vice-President*

*Violeta Bulc
Member of the Commission*

*Mr. Pietro Grasso
President of the Senato della Repubblica
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