



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 8.3.2018
C(2018) 987 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 the European Agency for the operational management of large-scale IT systems in the area of freedom, security and justice, and amending Regulation (EC) 1987/2006 and Council Decision 2007/533/JHA and repealing Regulation (EU) 1077/2011 {COM(2017) 352 final}.

This proposal forms part of a broader package of measures designed for a better functioning of the current European Union information systems, for the creation of the necessary new systems, their interoperability and for enhancing information exchange. These measures are key to ensure security and efficient migration and border management in the European Union.

By proposing a new mandate for the European Agency for the operational management of large-scale IT Systems in the area of freedom, security and justice (eu-LISA), the Commission is delivering on the European Agendas on Security and Migration.

The purpose of the proposal is to improve the functioning of eu-LISA and strengthening its role to ensure that its mandate meets the current challenges at Union level in the area of freedom, security and justice.

The Commission welcomes the Senato della Repubblica's support to strengthen and where necessary extend the mandate of the Agency to the development and operational management of new and current large-scale IT systems in the area of freedom, security and justice, as well as to tasks regarding interoperability between systems, research activities and support to Member States.

The proposal should provide the Agency with the necessary resources to efficiently deal with the new and current systems and its additional tasks, to highlight the role of the Agency for the technical implementation of interoperability and to improve data quality, and strengthen the Agency's advisory and support role toward the Member States.

*Mr Pietro GRASSO
President of the Senato della Repubblica
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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 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*