



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 21.05.2019
C(2019) 2993 final*

*Mr Roberto FICO
President of the
Camera dei Deputati
Piazza Montecitorio
IT – 00100 ROMA*

Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Camera dei Deputati for its Opinion on the Communication on “The principles of subsidiarity and proportionality: Strengthening their role in the EU’s policymaking” {COM(2018) 703 final} and on the Annual Reports 2017 on the application of the principles of subsidiarity and of proportionality {COM(2018) 490 final} and on relations between the Commission and national Parliaments {COM(2018) 491 final}.

The Commission welcomes the support of the Camera dei Deputati for the commitments and recommendations contained in the Communication. The principles of subsidiarity and proportionality are core elements of the Commission’s better regulation agenda that underpin how it prepares its policy proposals. The Commission has taken stock of how this better regulation policy is working and has elaborated on the recommendations of the Task Force Subsidiarity, Proportionality and “Doing less more efficiently” in a communication “Better regulation: taking stock and sustaining our commitment” adopted on 15 April 2019¹.

As announced in its Communication on The principles of subsidiarity and proportionality, the Commission has meanwhile proposed to the European Parliament and to the Council to discount the Christmas/New Year period from the 8-week deadline for issuing reasoned opinions. It welcomes the support of the Camera dei Deputati in this regard and for the proposed common grid for the assessment of subsidiarity and proportionality. Moreover, it intends to provide aggregated responses to reasoned opinions where a significant number of national Parliaments have raised similar concerns, thus giving greater visibility to the views of these national Parliaments.

The Commission takes note of the suggestions of the Camera dei Deputati that would require a change of the existing Treaties, concerning the extension to 12 weeks of the

¹ COM(2019) 178 final.

deadline for issuing reasoned opinions, the introduction of “red cards” and the European Parliament’s right of initiative. However, no Treaty change is envisaged in the near future.

The Commission hopes that these clarifications address the issues raised by the Camera dei Deputati and looks forward to continuing the political dialogue in the future.

Yours faithfully,

*Frans Timmermans
First Vice-President*