



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 20.08.2019  
C(2019) 6191 final*

*Dear President,*

*The Commission would like to thank the Camera dei Deputati for its Opinion on the Communication on “Better regulation: taking stock and sustaining our commitment” {COM(2019) 178 final}.*

*Over several months, the Commission has looked into its better regulation approach to see what was working well and what was still problematic. The message is clear: Better regulation is unanimously supported by citizens, non-governmental organisations, administrations, and businesses. The detailed results of the stocktaking were published in the communication “Better regulation: taking stock and sustaining our commitment”, which was followed by a conference in Brussels on 29 April 2019.*

*The Commission thrives to improve the quality of impact assessments it produces. This may be illustrated by the decline in the rate of negative first opinions issued by the Regulatory Scrutiny Board, which fell from 43% in 2017 to 28% in 2018.*

*The Commission intends to present its assessments of subsidiarity and proportionality of individual policy proposals in a standard, structured way, and hopes that the European Parliament, the Council and national Parliaments will do the same. All European institutions need to be committed if these principles are to achieve their intended effect.*

*The Commission is currently working on the concrete implementation of the measures announced in the Communication on the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality of 23 October 2018 {COM(2018) 703 final}. It plans, with the agreement of the European Parliament and the Council, to exclude, from December this year, the Christmas / New Year period (20 December to 10 January) from the eight-week period to scrutinise draft legislative acts for their compliance with the principle of subsidiarity. Furthermore, the Commission will in the future respond with aggregated responses if a significant number of national Parliaments have raised similar concerns about subsidiarity, while the ‘yellow card’ threshold has not been reached.*

*Mr Roberto FICO  
President of the  
Camera dei Deputati  
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*The Commission also wants to listen to the views of local and regional authorities better because it needs their first-hand experience of implementing EU legislation. It is currently considering how to make local and regional authorities better heard through our consultations system. It is fully committed to a deeper level of cooperation and transparency between central governments, parliaments, regions and local governments. Especially during the scrutiny of European-level instruments of legislative planning, so as to bolster the efficiency of the system and encourage relevant authorities to take greater responsibility for policies, which will, in turn, benefit the quality of legislation at all levels.*

*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,*

*Margrethe Vestager  
Member of the Commission*