



## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 02.08.2022  
C(2022) 5695 final*

*Dear President,*

*The Commission would like to thank the Senato della Repubblica for its Opinion on the proposal for a Regulation amending Regulation (EU) 2021/953 on a framework for the issuance, verification and acceptance of interoperable COVID-19 vaccination, test and recovery certificates (EU Digital COVID Certificate) to facilitate free movement during the COVID-19 pandemic {COM(2022) 50 final} and the proposal for a Regulation amending Regulation (EU) 2021/954 on a framework for the issuance, verification and acceptance of interoperable COVID-19 vaccination, test and recovery certificates (EU Digital COVID Certificate) with regard to third-country nationals legally staying or residing in the territories of Member States during the COVID-19 pandemic {COM(2022) 55 final}.*

*The main element of the proposals is the extension of the EU Digital COVID Certificate Regulations by one year, until 30 June 2023. This will ensure that persons can continue using EU Digital COVID Certificates to exercise their right to free movement within the European Union, should a rise in infections make it necessary for Member States to temporarily reintroduce travel restrictions during the second half of 2022 and first half of 2023. The EU Digital COVID Certificate system has proven to be the only functioning COVID-19 certificate system operational at international level on a large scale. It has proven to be a widely available and reliably accepted tool to facilitate not only free movement of Union citizens and their family members, but also intra-EU travel during the COVID-19 pandemic of third country nationals lawfully residing in the Union or who have legally entered the territory of a Member State.*

*In addition, some changes have been made to the EU Digital COVID Certificate framework to make it even more accessible to citizens. In particular, Member States will be able to issue certificates to participants of clinical trials and on the basis of additional types of antigen tests.*

*Ms Maria Elisabetta ALBERTI CASELLATI  
President of the  
Senato della Repubblica  
Piazza Madama, 1  
IT – 00186 ROMA*

*The Commission is pleased that the Senato della Repubblica has delivered a positive opinion with regard to the proposals. The Commission also wishes to inform that the Senato della Repubblica's Opinion have been made available to the Commission's representatives in the negotiations with the co-legislators and have informed these discussions.*

*The Commission is pleased that the European Parliament and the Council have reached an agreement on the extension of the EU Digital COVID Certificate Regulations. On this basis, the amended Regulations have been adopted on 29 June 2022.*

*The Commission looks forward to continuing the political dialogue with the Senato della Repubblica in the future.*

*Yours faithfully,*

*Adina-Ioana VĂLEAN  
Member of the Commission*