

OPINION

**of the European Union Affairs Committee
of the Senate of the Republic of Poland**

**on the proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the limitation
of emissions of certain pollutants into the air from medium combustion plants**

COM(2013)919

adopted at the meeting on 12 February 2014

1. The European Union Affairs Committee (EUAC) supports efforts aimed at limiting air pollution, at the same time emphasising the need to adapt them to the social, economic and financial situation of individual Member States.
2. EUAC has reservations concerning some of the provisions of the proposed Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the limitation of emissions of certain pollutants into the air from medium combustion plants.
3. In EUAC's opinion, the emission requirements for medium combustion plants are too restrictive, in particular with reference to the existing coal-fired plants (Article 5(1) and Annex II).
4. EUAC considers the emission limit values set for plants in zones not complying with air quality standards following from Directive 2008/50/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe (Annex III) to be too strict and calls for raising them.
5. In EUAC's opinion, the emission requirements for medium combustion plants should not be set at the same level for all plants within the thermal input range of 1-50 MW. Unlike operators of large combustion plants, operators of smaller combustion plants do not have technical and financial capabilities to adapt them to the requirements specified in the Proposal.
6. In EUAC's opinion, the time for adopting and implementing the Directive should be longer than the time specified in the Proposal, i.e. 1.5 years after the entry into force of the act (Article 16).