



Warsaw, 24th July 2014

SEJM
OF THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND
EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

CHAIRWOMAN
Agnieszka Pomaska

Mr
José Manuel Barroso
President of the
European Commission

Dear Mr President,

I hereby enclose European Union Affairs Committee's opinion No. 57 on the *Joint Communication to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions Neighbourhood at the Crossroads: Implementation of the European Neighbourhood Policy in 2013 (JOIN(2014) 12 final)* adopted on the 270th Committee's meeting on 22th of July 2014.

Yours sincerely,

Opinion No 57
of the European Union Affairs Committee of the Sejm of the Republic of Poland
on
the Joint Communication to the European Parliament, the Council,
the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions
Neighbourhood at the crossroads
Implementation of the European Neighbourhood Policy in 2013
(JOIN(2014) 12 final)
adopted based on Article 160 of the Standing Orders of the Sejm
at the 270th session on 22 July 2014

1. Parliamentary debate should be held on the Communication, together with the regional reports concerning the two dimensions of the European Neighbourhood Policy: the southern dimension and the eastern dimension, as well as the individual partner country reports. Since the regional and country reports are drafted in English and French and their translation is not available, the debate in the Polish Sejm was limited to the main document only, without appendices.

In this situation, parliaments of English- and French-speaking countries are in a privileged position.

2. The Communication draws attention to the fact that some partner states have not met the expectations of the European Union, in particular with regard to respecting civil rights and combating corruption. However neither concrete conclusions are formulated in this regard, nor there is any reference to the 'more for more' principle in this context, while the said principle is binding in the European Neighbourhood Policy.

3. The Conclusions do not refer to the title of the Communication 'Neighbourhood at the crossroads'. Apart from some general recommendations regarding the Common Foreign and Security Policy no new proposals are made concerning the European Neighbourhood Policy, either in its southern or eastern dimension. If the European Neighbourhood Policy is indeed at the crossroads, the Sejm of the Republic of Poland would expect more concrete conclusions giving an impulse to the choice of a specific road ahead.

Chairwoman of the Committee

/-/ Agnieszka Pomaska