



## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 2.8.2016  
C(2016) 4850 final*

*Dear President,*

*The Commission would like to thank the Assembleia da República for its Opinion on the Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of Regions – Draft 2015 Joint Report of the Council and the Commission on the implementation of the renewed framework for European cooperation in the youth field (2010-2018) {COM(2015) 429 final}.*

*The Commission welcomes the views expressed by the Assembleia da República in its Opinion, which supports the content of the Communication and its proposed priorities for future cooperation.*

*The Commission Communication on the 2015 EU Youth Report is a political document within the context of the EU Youth Strategy. It evaluates the progress made towards the overall objectives of the Strategy, namely to provide more and equal opportunities for young people in education and the job market; and to encourage young people to actively participate in society. It also judges how well the more specific priorities of the previous work cycle under the Strategy have been implemented and helps establish new priorities for the following work cycle.*

*The Council has broadly endorsed the Commission proposal when adopting the EU Youth report and an EU Work Plan for youth 2016-2018 in its meeting of 23 November 2015. It has decided that the future work cycle of the Youth Strategy should focus on:*

- increased social inclusion of all young people, taking into account the underlying European values;*
- stronger participation of all young people in democratic and civic life in Europe;*
- easier transition of young people from youth to adulthood, in particular the integration into the labour market.*

*Mr Eduardo FERRO RODRIGUES  
President of the Assembleia da República  
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*This strategy is for all young people, but particular target groups to be reached are young people at risk of marginalisation, young people neither in employment, nor education or training, and young people with a migrant background, including newly arrived immigrants and young refugees. Under the EU work plan for youth, an expert group is working on recommendations on how to prevent youth marginalisation and radicalisation through youth work. Another expert group will work later on the integration of young migrants and refugees.*

*The EU Youth Report underlines the need for a comprehensive approach to address the youth challenges ahead. As indicated by the Assembleia da República, this requires a coherent policy agenda, backed by all possible instruments and various financial sources, such as the Erasmus+ programme, the Youth Guarantee and EU funding instruments with greater outreach.*

*The Commission looks forward to continuing the political dialogue with the Assembleia da República in the future.*

*Yours faithfully,*

*Frans Timmermans  
First Vice-President*

*Tibor Navracsics  
Member of the Commission*