



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

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C(2016) 7011 final*

*Ms Regina BASTOS
Chair of the European Affairs Committee
of the Assembleia da República
Palácio de S. Bento
P – 1249-068 LISBOA*

*cc. Mr Eduardo FERRO RODRIGUES
President of the
Assembleia da República
Palácio de S. Bento
P – 1249-068 LISBOA*

Dear Chair,

The Commission would like to thank the Assembleia da República for its Opinion on the Commission's proposal for a Regulation on cooperation between national authorities responsible for the enforcement of consumer protection laws {COM(2016) 283 final}. The Commission appreciates the overall support expressed for cross-border enforcement and for a revised Regulation.

As required by Article 114, paragraph 3 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU), the proposal is based on a high level of consumer protection and takes into account new developments in consumer markets such as the digitalisation and globalisation of business practices. It should contribute substantially to the ambition of unleashing the potential of the Digital Single Market, which is a priority for the Union's economic growth.

Cross-border enforcement of consumer laws has to become more agile, efficient, and able to respond to the challenges of digital markets that know no national borders. The rate of compliance with the rules is low: estimates of the Commission show that 37% of traders in key online consumer markets do not respect Union consumer laws, generating a detriment of EUR 770 million per year for consumers¹. The Commission counts on the further support of the Assembleia da República for the proposal and looks forward to continuing the political dialogue in the future.

Yours faithfully,

*Frans Timmermans
First Vice-President*

*Věra Jourová
Member of the Commission*

¹ See the impact assessment accompanying the proposal for the CPC Regulation, SWD(2016) 164 final, 25.5.2016, http://ec.europa.eu/consumers/consumer_rights/unfair-trade/docs/cpc-revision-proposal-impact-assessment_en.pdf.