



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 13.10.2016  
C(2016) 6496 final*

*Dear Chair,*

*The Commission would like to thank the Assembleia da República for its Opinion on the proposal for a Directive amending Council Directive 98/41/EC on the registration of persons sailing on board passenger ships operating to or from ports of the Member States of the Community and amending Directive 2010/65/EU on reporting formalities for ships arriving in and/or departing from ports of the Member States {COM(2016) 370 final}.*

*Driven by the Commission's Regulatory Fitness and Performance (REFIT) Programme, this proposal forms part of a broader package of measures designed to simplify and improve the common rules on the safety of ships carrying passengers in EU waters. Introducing the requirement to register passenger data in a digital manner brings the existing requirements up to date with technological developments so that the registration of passengers is more efficient and less burdensome.*

*The Commission welcomes the Assembleia da República's overall support and shares the view that action at the EU level, as envisaged in the proposal, is required to pursue the above-mentioned objectives.*

*Discussions between the Commission and the co-legislators concerning the proposal are now underway and the Commission remains hopeful that an agreement will be reached soon.*

*The Commission looks forward to continuing our political dialogue in the future.*

*Yours faithfully,*

*Frans Timmermans  
First Vice-President*

*Violeta Bulc  
Member of the Commission*

*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  
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