



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 6.7.2017  
C(2017) 4284 final*

*Dear Chair,*

*The Commission would like to thank the Assembleia da República for its Opinion on the proposal for a Regulation establishing a European Travel Information and Authorisation System {COM(2016) 731 final}.*

*The objective of the European Travel Information and Authorisation System is to determine the eligibility of visa-exempt third country nationals to travel to the Schengen Area and to identify prior to the arrival of the traveller to the external borders whether such travel poses any security, irregular immigration or public health risk.*

*The Commission is pleased that the Assembleia da República shares the view that action at the European Union level as envisaged in the proposal is required as one of the measures to strengthen the protection of the European Union's external borders.*

*Discussions between the Commission and the co-legislators on the proposal are now underway and the Commission remains hopeful that an agreement will be reached by the end of 2017.*

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

*Yours faithfully,*

*Frans Timmermans  
First Vice-President*

*Dimitris Avramopoulos  
Member of the Commission*

*Ms Regina BASTOS  
Chair of the European Affairs Committee  
of the Assembleia da República  
Palácio de S. Bento  
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*cc. Mr Eduardo FERRO RODRIGUES  
President of the Assembleia da República  
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