



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 6.11.2017  
C(2017) 7037 final*

*Dear Chair,*

*The Commission would like to thank the Assembleia da Republica for its Opinion on the Communication from the Commission on the European Solidarity Corps {COM(2016) 942 final}.*

*The Commission welcomes the Assembleia da Republica's positive assessment of the Communication which follows up on the commitment made by President Juncker during his 2016 State of the Union address to create a European Solidarity Corps, offering young people between the age of 18 and 30 the opportunity to take part in a wide range of solidarity activities across the European Union.*

*Building on 20 years of solid experience gained through the European Voluntary Service, the Commission is seeking with the European Solidarity Corps to establish an inclusive framework for solidarity activities in Europe underpinning the values upon which Europe is founded. The European Solidarity Corps will enable young people across Europe to engage with communities and address societal challenges. At the same time, it will help to improve the skills and competences that young people need for their personal and professional development at the beginning of their careers.*

*Since the launch of its current phase on 7 December 2016, the European Solidarity Corps has met with vivid interest, with more than 35,000 young people already having signed up for it.*

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

*Yours faithfully,*

*Frans Timmermans  
First Vice-President*

*Tibor Navracsics  
Member of the Commission*

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

*cc Mr Eduardo FERRO RODRIGUES  
President of the  
Assembleia da República  
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