



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 27.6.2017
C(2017) 4355 final*

Dear Chair,

The Commission would like to thank the Assembleia da República for its Opinion on the proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 2003/59/EC on the initial qualification and periodic training of drivers of certain road vehicles for the carriage of goods or passengers and Directive 2006/126/EC on driving licences {COM(2017) 47 final}.

The aim of the Directive is to ensure that truck and bus drivers have the appropriate professional skills, thereby improving road safety and ensuring fair competition throughout the European Union. The proposed amendment aims to address the shortcomings of the current framework which were identified during its evaluation.

The Commission welcomes the Assembleia da República's broad support for the aims of the proposal and its assessment that it fully respects the principle of subsidiarity.

The Commission looks forward to continuing the 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
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*cc. Mr Eduardo FERRO RODRIGUES
President of the
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