



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 29.11.2017
C(2017) 7933 final*

Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Assembleia da República for its Opinion on the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down the legal framework of the European Solidarity Corps {COM(2017) 262 final}.

The Commission welcomes the Assembleia da República's positive assessment of the proposal, which delivers 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.

With the European Solidarity Corps the Commission is seeking 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.

The European Solidarity Corps is meeting with vivid interest from young people, with more than 36,000 young people already having signed up for it.

In its Opinion, the Assembleia da República calls for the European Solidarity Corps and its further developments to be monitored closely. In this context, the Commission would like to underline that its proposal details in Chapter V how the performance of the European Solidarity Corps will be monitored referring in particular to indicators, a progress report and an independent evaluation.

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*

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*cc Mr Eduardo FERRO RODRIGUES
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