



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 1.8.2018
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Dear Chair,

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 on establishing a framework for interoperability between EU information systems (borders and visa) {COM(2017) 793 final} and on the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on establishing a framework for interoperability between EU information systems (police and judicial cooperation, asylum and migration) {COM(2017) 794 final}.

These proposals establish a framework for interoperability between European Union information systems, in order to better protect the security of citizens and to improve migration and border management. In their Joint Declaration, the Presidents of the Parliament, the Council and the Commission placed these proposals among the European Union's legislative priorities for 2018 and 2019.

The Commission is pleased that the Assembleia da República shares the view that action at the Union level, as envisaged in the proposals, is compliant with the principle of subsidiarity set out in the Treaty on the European Union and required to make European information systems interoperable, able to exchange information and to work better together.

The Commission takes note that the Assembleia da República would have favoured a single proposal identifying the impact of variable geometry in its preamble. However, the Commission believes that both proposals build a comprehensive interoperability framework that is deemed to reflect the participation of each country in the different underlying systems.

*Ms Regina BASTOS
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The proposals are currently in the legislative process involving both the Parliament and the Council. The Commission remains hopeful that an agreement will be reached before the end of 2018.

The Commission looks forward to continuing the political dialogue with the Assembleia da República in the future.

Yours faithfully,

*Elżbieta Bieńkowska
Member of the Commission*