

Parlamentul României Senat

Bucharest, 28-th June 2011 *Courtesy translation*

OPINION

of the ROMANIAN SENATE, on the Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime

COM (2011) 275 final

The Senate of Romania has checked the compliance with the subsidiarity and proportionality principles of the Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime - COM (2011) 275 final, according to the provisions of the Treaty of Lisbon (Protocol no.2).

Taking into account the report of our permanent Juridical Committee on Nominations, Discipline, Immunities and Validations, the Plenum of the Senate, during its session of the 28-th June 2011, has found that the mentioned proposal, elaborated according to Articles 82 paragraph (2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU), is in compliance with the subsidiarity principle and the principle of proportionality, but after assessing the substance of the proposal the following amendments were adopted:

- 1. In Article 2, item (b) is amended as follows:
- "(b) 'family members' means the spouse, non-marital cohabite, registered partner, the relatives in direct line, the brothers and sisters, and the dependants of the victim, on the basis of the legislation of each Member State;"
- 2. In Article 21, paragraph 2, is amended as follows:
- "Vulnerable victims shall be offered the following measures during criminal investigations, these may choose for:
- (a) the hearing with the victim carried out in premises designed or adapted for that purpose;
- (b) the hearing with the victim carried out by or through professionals trained for that purpose;
- (c) all hearings with the victim are conducted by the same persons unless this is contrary to the good administration of justice;
- (d) all hearings with victims of sexual violence are conducted by a person of the same sex."

President of Senate Mircea GEOANĂ