

SUMMARY
on the Opinion on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, of the Additional Protocol to the Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism and of its additional Protocol COM (2015) 291 and COM (2015) 292

The Chamber of Deputies welcomes the signing, by the Council, on behalf of the European Union, of the Convention of the Council of Europe concerning the prevention of terrorism and of its the additional Protocol, with the following remarks:

- Minimal common norms of penal law are necessary which should standardize both the substantial and the procedural law, also including the favorable treatment applicable to those who are involved in acts which precede the terrorism but which finally, cooperate with the competent authorities in order to prevent them;
- No multilateral convention on combating terrorism has defined the term terrorism in an explicit and comprehensive way, therefore the Chamber of Deputies recommends to the European Commission to propose a framework definition, which should define both the essence of the terrorist act and its main characteristics, keeping however, a certain degree of generality so that to achieve the consensus and not to exclude certain terrorism-related offences from the scope of the criminal law;
- The multilateral conventions are not applicable to the State-sponsored terrorism, being applied only to the terrorist acts committed by individual actors;
- Certain elements of the Eastern Partnership can also be used to prevent the terrorist threat at the eastern frontier of the European Union; the use of the Eastern Partnership for this purpose gets an added value;
- Incriminating the offences stipulated at art. 2 – 6 of the additional Protocol can be difficult, to the extent to which the supplied definitions cannot cover the diversity of acts and their purpose is difficult to prove, leaving the decision to the sphere of interpretation.

Other remarks of the Chamber of Deputies referred to the future modifications of the framework-decision in the matter concerning the combat against terrorism.