



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 2.2.2016
C(2016) 438 final*

Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Camera Deputaților for its Opinion on the Commission Communication 'Launching the public consultation process on a new energy market design' {COM(2015) 340 final}.

In this context the Commission would like to recall that the development of a resilient Energy Union with a forward looking climate policy is one of the strategic objectives of the Commission. It requires a fundamental transformation of Europe's energy system, including an updated design of the electricity market.

The Communication focuses on developing a new framework which delivers market arrangements to move towards an interconnected EU electricity market that (i) provides clear price signals for investments including facilitating the integration of renewables (ii) promotes regional cooperation on energy policies and support schemes to renewables and (iii) provides a truly European dimension to security of supply.

It should be noted that the intended update to electricity market rules should bring tangible benefits for the consumers. In particular improved retail market arrangements should offer consumers the possibility to benefit from active participation in the EU's energy transition, by ensuring access to meaningful and frequent information on consumption and related costs, and by creating incentives for adjusting and reducing consumption according to price evolution.

The Commission values the Camera Deputaților's early engagement at this stage of the policy-making process and acknowledges the importance of the issues raised by the Camera Deputaților, in particular as regards the need to consider the impact of intermittent production in relation to consumers and the remuneration of transmission services. These issues are particularly pertinent for Member States such as Romania where the share of renewable energy sources has increased considerably.

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The Commission will, where applicable, take the considerations highlighted by the Camera Deputaților into account in the development of specific policy measures.

Further to the public consultation, which was marked by a high level of stakeholder interest, the Commission intends to make concrete legislative proposals towards the end of 2016.

The Commission hopes that these clarifications address the issues raised by the Camera Deputaților and looks forward to continuing the political dialogue in the future.

Yours faithfully,

*Frans Timmermans
First Vice-President*

*Miguel Arias Cañete
Member of the Commission*