



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

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Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Senat for its Opinion on the Joint Communication of the European Commission and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on the Review of the European Neighbourhood Policy {JOIN(2015) 50 final}.

The Commission would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Senat once more for the contribution it made last year in May to the consultation on the review of the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP), which we studied with interest.

The Commission welcomes the Senat's support for the ambitions and principles of the review, which proposes how the EU and its neighbours can build more effective partnerships. A democratic, stable and prosperous neighbourhood is a strategic priority and a fundamental interest for the EU.

In particular, we note the Senat's recommendation on a rapid and thorough implementation of the review's proposals, notably those related to the stabilisation of the region. In addition, as pointed out by the Joint Communication, connections and interdependencies with other partners require broader formats of cooperation. The EU will use Thematic Frameworks to offer cooperation on regional issues of concern in our neighbourhood to state and multilateral actors in the region, including accession and other partners.

According to the proposals made by the Joint Communication referred to above, work is ongoing on the implementation of the review of the ENP and further discussions will take place with Member States, as well as with partner countries and their civil societies, for instance on the proposal to discuss new partnership priorities.

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The Commission would again like to thank the Senat for its contribution and looks forward to continuing the political dialogue in the future.

Yours faithfully,

*Frans Timmermans
First Vice-President*

*Federica Mogherini
High Representative/Vice President*