



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

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C(2016) 5435 final

Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Camera Deputaților for its Opinion on the Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council on an Action Plan for strengthening the fight against terrorist financing {COM(2016) 50 final}.

The Commission appreciates the Camera Deputaților's support for the priorities identified in the Action Plan and shares the views expressed by the Camera Deputaților on the specific items developed in the Opinion.

The Commission has recently tabled new proposals to amend the 4th Anti-Money Laundering Directive {COM(2016) 450 final} and presented a list of high-risk third countries with strategic deficiencies in the field of money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism, in accordance with the Action Plan.

The Commission shares the views of the Camera Deputaților on the need to take a firm stand in response to terrorism in the EU. I would like to refer you to the Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the European Council and the Council "delivering on the European Agenda on Security to fight against terrorism and pave the way towards an effective and genuine Security Union" {COM(2016) 230 final}, in which the Commission proposes ideas and actions to improve the EU framework and tools and the way Member States could use them. Law enforcement authorities in all our Member States should both 'think European' and 'act European', as internal security is a shared responsibility.

This Communication also addresses a very important issue raised by the Camera Deputaților regarding the risk that new technology may be abused by terrorists to conduct new forms of attacks. In this respect, the Commission proposes using security risk assessments, to ensure that policies developed at EU level are based on a proper analysis of the relevant security risks to define effective responses to those risks and underlying threats, and to direct research funds towards future technological and capability needs. Ensuring the resilience of critical infrastructure against hybrid threats is also part of this concern, as also explained in the "Joint Framework on countering hybrid threats a European Union response" {JOIN(2016) 18 final}.

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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,

Member of the Commission