

PARLIAMENT OF ROMANIA

CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES

DECISION on the Proposal for a COUNCIL DIRECTIVE amending Directive 2011/16/EU as regards access to anti-money-laundering information by tax authorities

COM(2016)452

Pursuant to the provisions of Articles 67 and 148 of the Romanian Constitution, republished, of Law No 373/2013 on cooperation between Parliament and the Government in the area of European affairs, and of Articles 160 to 185 of the Rules of Procedures of the Chamber of Deputies, republished,

the **Chamber of Deputies** hereby adopts this Decision.

Sole Article. Having regard to Opinion No 4c-19/1095, adopted by the Committee for European Affairs at its meeting of 27 September 2016, the Chamber of Deputies:

1. takes note of the aim of the Proposal for a Directive, which is to make it possible for tax authorities to access anti-money-laundering information in order to perform their duties in monitoring the proper application of the Directive on Administrative Cooperation by Financial Institutions.
2. It notes that significant progress has been made in enhancing tax transparency and strengthening the cooperation between tax authorities across the EU, and considers that continued efforts should be made to improve the implementation of the international standards on transparency, including the availability of beneficial ownership information and its international exchange.
3. It points out that access by tax authorities to anti-money-laundering information differs considerably throughout the EU; thus the proposed amendments are important to improve the identification of criminal activities such as money-laundering, corruption and terrorist financing.
4. It considers that granting access to anti-money-laundering information concerns internal organisational matters in Member States and does not involve any reporting or other administrative obligations on the side of external stakeholders.
5. It acknowledges that information obtained by tax authorities in the course of the fulfilment of their duties would fall within the scope of secrecy requirements, and it underlines the fact that the proposed measures are necessary and proportionate to ensure the proper functioning of the tax systems and the supervision of the proper fulfilment of the obligations of all the actors involved.
6. It supports the action of the European Commission in amending the Fourth Anti-Money-Laundering Directive by introducing measures to permit access by the tax authorities to anti-money-laundering information, but it questions whether the proposal is still necessary given the express intention to amend Directive 2015/849 - COM(2016)450.

This Decision was adopted by the Chamber of Deputies at its sitting of 4 October 2016 in compliance with Article 76(2) of the Romanian Constitution, republished.

Florin Iordache

Bucharest, 4 October 2016.