



Romanian Parliament  
Senate

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Bucharest, 1<sup>st</sup> November 2016

**OPINION**

**of the ROMANIAN SENATE**

**regarding the PROPOSAL FOR A REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on standards for the qualification of third-country nationals or stateless persons as beneficiaries of international protection, for a uniform status for refugees or for persons eligible for subsidiary protection and for the content of the protection granted and amending Council Directive 2003/109/EC of 25 November 2003 concerning the status of third-country nationals who are long-term residents COM (2016) 466 final**

**The Romanian Senate examined the PROPOSAL FOR A REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on standards for the qualification of third-country nationals or stateless persons as beneficiaries of international protection, for a uniform status for refugees or for persons eligible for subsidiary protection and for the content of the protection granted and amending Council Directive 2003/109/EC of 25 November 2003 concerning the status of third-country nationals who are long-term residents - COM (2016) 466 final – according to the provisions of the Treaty of Lisbon (Protocol no. 2).**

Taking into account the report of October 21, 2016 of our permanent Committee on European Affairs, **the Plenum of the Senate**, during its session of October 24, 2016, decided as follows:

- I. The proposed regulation complies with the principle of subsidiarity and proportionality.**
- II. It is considered that:**
  - a. The legislative proposal aims to establish a system of standards regarding the conditions that must be met by third country nationals or stateless persons as beneficiaries of international protection and comes as published by the European Commission on 13 July 2016 terminating reform on common European asylum.
- III. The following are noted:**
  - a. The main objective of the Regulation is to ensure that all Member States use common criteria for the identification of persons genuinely in need of international protection, on the one hand, and that the people enjoy a common set of rights in all Member States, on the other hand.
  - b. The proposed Regulation aims to:

- i. Increase harmonization of common criteria for recognizing applicants in need of international protection
- ii. Improve convergence in asylum decisions across the EU
- iii. Ensure that protection is granted only during the existence of grounds for persecution or serious injuries
- iv. Find a solution to the problem of secondary movements of beneficiaries of international protection
- v. Increase harmonization of the rights of beneficiaries of international protection, especially regarding the validity and format of residence permits, and a clear indication of the scope of the rights and obligations of beneficiaries, especially as regards the social security and social assistance.

**IV. The following requires attention:**

- a. With regard to amending and supplementing Directive 2003/109 / EC and repealing Directive 2011/95 / EU, by regulation, margin of maneuverability left to the Member States (Art. 44-45) may be affected.

**p. Speaker of the Senate**



**Ioan CHELARU**