



Parlamentul României
Senat

OPINION

regarding

the Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources (recast)
COM (2016) 767

The Senate of Romania has examined the *Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources* COM (2016) 864 according to the provisions of the Treaty of Lisbon (Protocol no.2). Taking into account the report of the Committee on European Affairs, the Plenum of the Senate, during its session on 9 May 2017, has considered that the proposal is in compliance with the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality.

The Romanian Senate made up the following recommendations:

1. The initiatives included in the Package should lead to the strengthening of the security of energy supply of the European Union by bringing about a reform of the electricity market and the shaping of an integrated governance and monitoring process in order to ensure that actions taken in the field of energy will contribute to achieving the objectives of the Energy Union.

2. Each Member State should be free to make its own energy mix by promoting predictable, efficient and low-carbon energy sources.

3. In order to ensure the stability, the competitiveness and the price accessibility at national and European level, each Member State should identify its own balance between the efficient use of existing production capacities of its technologies and resources and the continuation of efforts to promote renewable sources without affecting the balance and the national energy stem.

4. The renewable energy must operate under market conditions and take responsibility, for the safety of the national electricity system along with other energy technologies,.

5. The system flexibility is the key element.

6. On the other hand, conventional sources should continue to remain a key element in the energy mix for energy security reasons.

7. Romania has made efforts to meet its renewable energy targets and has achieved its target since 2015

8. The member states having already met their 2020 targets could not sustain the efforts towards the average target of 2030, taking into account the impact upon its household consumers.

9. The cooperation mechanisms of the current Directive have proved ineffective and would need to be improved in the proposal for a directive and sectoral obligations become indicative and not uniformly established for all Member States.

10. Considering the EU-wide target of 27% as a share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption in 2030, we consider that the obligation to increase renewable energy for heating and cooling by 1% per annum would affect the right of each State Member to choose the most appropriate strategy to help achieve the common goal.

11.. The expenditure on projects built by a State on the territory of another State must be borne entirely by the State benefiting from these allowances, including the costs of network consolidation, transport at the place of consumption, energy storage and back-up capabilities, and possible network congestion .

12. Considering the 27% binding EU target of 27% renewable energy in 2030, we believe that binding targets should not be required at the level of each EU Member State. Instead, studies and scenarios are needed in order to consider the impact of the transposition of this target, according to the availability of renewable sources, the degree of development of the Member States and the degree of consumer supportability.

13. The draft Directive imposes tasks and obligations at the sectoral level, although no binding targets are proposed at Member State level. The consequence leads at a profound and radical change of approach at the level of the Member State.

14. In this respect, we call for sectoral obligations to become indicative and not to be uniformly established for all Member States, bearing in mind that some of them have so far fulfilled their obligations.

15. We believe that certain mechanisms, which are promoted in the draft Directive, such as those of cooperation between Member States, are also defined in the current Directive. Therefore, inefficiency and incomplete definition are the cause of their lack of implementation so far.

16. Further clarification is needed on mechanisms for cooperation between states for additional engagement in the joint effort of the EU Member States to develop the E-RES promotion.

17. As a result, an E-RES Member State obtained from capacities installed in the territory of another Member State / non-EU Member State has to bear all the additional costs of the projects developed under the new Directive, including the costs of network congestion and market balancing of electricity.

p.President of the Senate



Iulian – Claudiu MANDA