Executive Summary

Opinion of the Romanian Chamber of Deputies on the Reflection Paper on harnessing globalisation COM (2017) 240

The Chamber of Deputies considers it useful to evaluate the phenomenon of globalisation and to identify the opportunities offered by it. In this regard, the Chamber of Deputies considers that highlighting the positive aspects of the globalisation on European citizens (quality of life, competitiveness, employment and modernising the economies of the Member States, innovation, infrastructure, etc.) is welcomed.

The Chamber of Deputies recommends developing and updating, continuously, guides and handbooks of good practices for citizens in regard to the risks of operating progress triggered by globalisation. Furthermore, the Chamber of Deputies considers it necessary to present, in detail, the relevant and specific factors which can influence policy in the field of transport, energy or agri-food industry. It also supports the diversification of trade agreements negotiated with external partners and calls on the negotiation of certain Treaties, encompassing provisions to ensure the protection of fundamental rights and all European and democratic values.

The Chamber of Deputies draws attention to the fact that technological progress creates risks and vulnerabilities, especially in the online environment; recommends, consequently, to emphasise the importance of cyber-security at European level. Furthermore, the Chamber of Deputies considers that the risks and security vulnerabilities are inherent effects of globalisation; therefore, a greater emphasis should be put on the security dimension and the development of mechanisms and instruments to protect and safeguard the European values and the democratic values and processes.

The Chamber of Deputies supports the creation of an environment favourable to innovation and technical progress whose immediate effect should be increasing competitiveness of products offered by Member States on international markets. The Chamber of Deputies considers that the EU will be much more competitive as each Member State will submit competitive goods or services to the global market. Last but not least, the Chamber of Deputies supports the increase of trade networks and trade volumes, as well as the harmonisation of international standards in this area.