

**Opinion of the Romanian Chamber of Deputies on  
Reflection Paper on the future of EU finances  
COM (2017) 358**

**The Chamber of Deputies:**

Supports a future European budget that is appropriate to achieve EU's priority objectives in the field of economic growth, cohesion and employment for the purpose of generating European added value.

Considers the European Union budget and the national budgets are serving complementary purposes and aim to deliver results that matter for all European citizens.

Takes the view that the cohesion policy, the common agricultural policy, the neighbourhood policy and the enlargement of the European Union are examples of successful policies which are not to be sacrificed, but must remain key pillars of the European project.

Notes that avoiding a conditional approach in relation to the results from the implementation of the current period (2014 - 2020) is crucial for Romania. The absorbency degree shall not constitute in any form a criterion for the allocation of cohesion funds in the future budget.

Regarding the duration of the MFF, supports the maintaining of the current period of 7 years, given the importance of preserving the strategic nature of the budget, as a tool to support the achievement of EU objectives in the medium and long term.

Stresses that Romania acknowledges the importance of financial instruments as leverage to increase EU resources intended to boost investment and growth, but strongly supports maintaining the continuation of ensuring funding based on grants/grant resources, especially in those states which do not have developed financial markets.

Considers that is necessary to maintain the separate chapters of the two policies of interest to Romania, namely cohesion policy and the common agricultural policy. In this regard, Romania manifests openness for talks on increasing the quality of spending of the funds for the two policies.

Stresses that Romania will remain a staunch supporter of the cohesion policy and the Common Agricultural Policy, traditional policies which are aimed at eliminating disparities within the European Union and that would allow the exploitation of the recent progress in the field of security and defence policy.