



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 21.3.2018  
C(2018) 877 final*

*Dear President,*

*The Commission would like to thank the Camera Deputaților for its Opinion on the Reflection Paper on the Future of European Union Finances {COM(2017) 358 final}.*

*In March 2017 the Commission published the White Paper on the Future of Europe followed by five reflection papers published between April and June: On the social dimension of Europe, on deepening the Economic and Monetary Union, on globalisation, on defence and on the future of European Union finances. Together, the papers lay out a range of ideas, concepts and possibilities in order to start a wide-ranging and open debate about the future of the European Union.*

*The paper on the future of Union's finances in particular presents the Commission's analysis of current challenges with which the European budget is faced, together with a set of potential measures on both the revenue and the expenditure side to address them. The paper stresses the importance of rethinking European Union finances in the aftermath of the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the Union, and depicts possibilities, reform options, risks and trade-offs for the future of Union's finances, according to five illustrative scenarios.*

*The Reflection Paper and the conference on the next Multiannual Financial Framework on 8 and 9 January 2018 in Brussels have served to spark a constructive and positive debate that is helping to prepare the Commission's proposals for the next Multiannual Financial Framework in May 2018.*

*In this context, the Commission welcomes the Camera Deputaților's support for a future European budget that is appropriate to achieve the Union's priority objectives in the field of economic growth, cohesion and employment for the purpose of generating European added value.*

*Mr Liviu DRAGNEA  
President of the Camera Deputaților  
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*The Commission takes note of the Camera Deputaților's views on the cohesion policy, the common agricultural policy, the neighbourhood policy and the enlargement of the European Union as key European policies. The openness for talks on increasing the quality of spending is highly appreciated.*

*The Commission also appreciates the Camera Deputaților's acknowledgement of the importance of financial instruments as leverage to increase Union's resources intended to boost investment and growth alongside its support for maintaining grant-based funding.*

*The Commission takes note of the Camera Deputaților's preference for the duration of the next Multiannual Financial Framework.*

*Finally, the Commission shares the Camera Deputaților's view concerning the complementarity of the European and national budgets in delivering results that matter for all European citizens.*

*The Commission appreciates having had the opportunity to engage in a rich and fruitful exchange of views on the occasion of the meeting on 26 October with representatives of Committees from both chambers of the Romanian Parliament in Bucharest.*

*The Commission looks forward to a continued political dialogue with the Camera Deputaților in the future.*

*Yours faithfully,*

*Frans Timmermans  
First Vice-President*

*Günther H. Oettinger  
Member of the Commission*