Executive Summary

Opinion of the Romanian Chamber of Deputies on

Proposal for a Directive on combating fraud and counterfeiting of non-cash means of payment

COM (2017) 489

The Chamber of Deputies:

- supports the proposal and considers that it is consistent with the legal instruments which facilitate secure payments in the EU; calls for greater efforts at reducing disparities between the Member States in the field of non-cash payments;
- recommends the extension of the term 'payment instrument' in order to take account of technological advances and the increasingly sophisticated methods of fraud; recommends defining, within the proposal, the concept of 'monetary value', since the definition of 'payment instrument' is not resulting whether it covers both electronic and virtual currencies;
- supports the exchange of information at EU level and administrative procedures for reporting to law enforcement authorities; recommends the involvement of national consumer protection authorities, of their European network of experts and of the group of experts in consumer rights in the field of financial services at the level of the European Commission in identifying vulnerabilities to fraud and falsification of non-cash payment, and the development of methods to prevent and reduce them;
- recommends identifying and informing high-risk groups of falling victim to such fraud, as well as raising general public awareness about risks, including those arising from the 'Internet of things';
- supports action taken at EU level in the field of information technology: combating crimes such as "ransomware" in order to check in real time the misappropriated, counterfeited sites used for theft of data, etc.