



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 23.01.2018
C(2018) 84 final*

Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Camera Deputaților for its Opinion on the Joint Communication on a strategic approach to resilience in the European Union's external action {JOIN(2017) 21 final}.

The Commission is encouraged by the Camera Deputaților's support for the proposals laid out in the Communication, which combines both a political and operational approach, underpinned by a renewed commitment to the broad transformative agenda that the Union has set for its external action. It notes the Camera Deputaților's concern to ensure the development and operationalisation of the proposals in the Joint Communication. Work is now underway along the four building blocks set out in the document, which were endorsed by the Council earlier this month. As a first step resilience methodologies are being tested in a number of countries with severe political, humanitarian and development challenges. The Commission also agrees with the Camera Deputaților that resilience needs to be addressed at multiple levels, including at community level.

The Camera Deputaților rightly notes that the European Union's resilience approach is founded in the values that the Treaty establishes to guide the Union's external action. That is why the Joint Communication rejects support to the forms of resilience that can be seen in certain authoritarian regimes. It also recognises that illegal non-state networks can also display forms of resilience which are detrimental to a country's development and security needs. The Union will instead promote strengthening resilience in a manner that ensures respect for democracy, rule of law, human and fundamental rights and fosters inclusive long-term security and progress.

The Commission hopes that these clarifications address the issues raised by the Camera Deputaților and looks forward to continuing our political dialogue in the future.

Yours faithfully,

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First Vice-President*

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