



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 27.7.2018  
C(2018) 5129 final*

*Dear President,*

*The Commission would like to thank the Camera Deputaților for its Opinion on the Communication on the Horizon 2020 interim evaluation: maximising the impact of European Union research and innovation {COM(2018) 2 final}.*

*The key message of the Communication is that Europe must step up investments in research and innovation and maximise their impact. The interim evaluation proved that Horizon 2020 has so far been a success story, with a high European added value and real impact on our economy and benefits for citizens.*

*The Commission welcomes the Camera Deputaților's support for a number of key recommendations in the Communication. This input has been highly valuable for the preparations of the post-2020 European Union programme for research and innovation, Horizon Europe.*

*The Commission highly appreciates the strong emphasis on the need for a more sophisticated approach to monitoring and communicating results and impacts of the European Union programmes for research and innovation. Given the multiple challenges that Europe is facing, it is essential to maximise the effectiveness of the European Union's investments and to deliver tangible results and impacts on the ground. This is true, in particular, for investments in research and innovation. For Horizon Europe, the Commission will seek to assess economic impact, as well as scientific and societal impact, over the short, medium and long term.*

*Mr Liviu DRAGNEA  
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*The call for 'evolution not revolution' will guide the approach towards the whole Programme leading to strong overall continuity and optimisation; for instance in building on the successful simplification measures introduced for Horizon 2020, galvanising industry to help tackle the global challenges we face, or rationalising the overall Union research and innovation funding landscape. Moreover, ensuring full accessibility and relevance for newcomers in general, will remain a high priority.*

*Taking into account the lessons learned from Horizon 2020, the valuable feedback received from stakeholders and partners, and the indications for the future already outlined in the Communication, the Commission has come forward with the legal proposals for the Union's post-2020 research and innovation programme on 7 June 2018.*

*The Commission hopes that these comments address the issues raised by the Camera Deputaţilor and looks forward to continuing our political dialogue.*

*Yours faithfully,*

*Věra JOUROVÁ  
Member of the Commission*