



Parlamentul României

Senat

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Bucharest, 5th July 2018

*Courtesy translation*

**OPINION**

**of the SENATE OF ROMANIA**

**on the proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the reduction of the impact of certain plastic products on the environment**

**COM (2018) 340 final**

The Senate of Romania has examined the proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the reduction of the impact of certain plastic products on the environment - COM (2018) 340 final, according to the provisions of the Treaty of Lisbon (Protocol no.2).

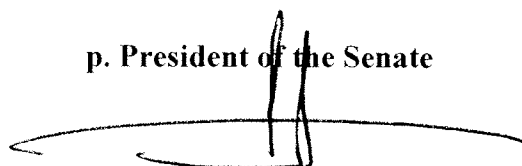
Taking into account the report of the Committee for European Affairs no. LXII/317/21.06.2018, **the plenum of the Senate**, during its session of 5th July 2018, has decided the following:

- (1) Notes that this proposal for a Directive respects the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality as its objectives can not be achieved at national level and the proposed measures and the form of the Directive are appropriate.
- (2) Considers that:
  1. Since plastic waste comes from products widely used, it subscribes to the statements mentioned by the European Commission in COM (2018) 28 that "action by all actors in the value chain of plastics will be needed, from manufacturers and designers of plastics to brands, retailers and recyclers; similarly, civil society, the scientific community, businesses and local authorities will have a decisive role to play in shaping the impact by working with regional and national authorities to make a positive change possible".
  2. Referring to the "detailed explanations of the specific provisions of the proposal", as the waste and product sectors are regulated separately at the level of the European Union, cooperation between the experts in both areas is mandatory for making the best decisions leading to reducing the impact of plastic products on the environment and reorienting production markets to other types of products compatible with the recycling / recovery industry, as well as creating consumption patterns without affecting the support capacity of natural capital components.
  3. The transition from the current economic model based on production and consumption to a model based on sustainable production and consumption implies a joint and long-lasting effort based on change of mentality and implicitly on another

educational model, on changing consumer behavior and on the development of financial mechanisms to support this transition period.

4. These initiatives must be widely presented in the media, constituting a sustainable way to change human behavior over time.

**p. President of the Senate**

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, sweeping horizontal stroke with a smaller, more complex mark above it.

**Adrian ȚUȚUIANU**