



Parlamentul României
Senat

Bucharest, 19th September 2018

Courtesy translation

OPINION
of the SENATE of ROMANIA

regarding the Proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on establishing the specific programme implementing Horizon Europe – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation

COM (2018) 436 final

The Romanian Senate examined the Proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on establishing the specific programme implementing Horizon Europe – the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation – COM (2018) 436 final - according to the provisions of the Treaty of Lisbon (Protocol no. 2).

Based on the report of September 13th, 2018 of our permanent Committee on European Affairs, the plenum of the Senate, during its session of September 19th, 2018, decided as follows:

- (1) The proposal for a Regulation respects the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality.
- (2) Recommends:
 - that the remuneration of the Horizon - Europe staff is done on the principle of "equal work - equal pay", i.e. the salary that can be accepted by the EU Commission for a Romanian participant to be equal to that of a participant from older countries of the Union (so-called "old member states"), because the quality of the work done by the participants in the project is the same, especially since the basic principle of this program is scientific excellence;
 - that the "widening" dimension (increasing the participation in the Horizon-Europe program) should not be limited to increasing the budget allocated to the program compared to the previous program, using the same tools, but new tools are needed to develop scientific excellence in the newer states of the EU and to allow real integration of these countries into the scientific community in the European Union. At this time, the "widening" components are limited to Twinning and Teaming, which were very good, but are insufficient as specific tools dedicated to engaging researchers across Europe. We support the principle of scientific excellence, but its application must not lead to an increase in the discrepancy between the old and new Member States, in the context in which Europe needs to be more and more united and heard as one voice.

p. President of the Senate



Adrian TUTUȘANU