



Parlamentul României Senat

Bucharest, June 18, 2020

Courtesy translation

OPINION of the SENATE of ROMANIA

on the Proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on providing Macro-Financial Assistance to enlargement and neighbourhood partners in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic crisis COM (2020) 163 final

The Romanian Senate examined the Proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on providing Macro-Financial Assistance to enlargement and neighbourhood partners in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic crisis – COM (2020) 163 final, according to the provisions of the Treaty of Lisbon (Protocol no. 2).

Based on the report of May 28, 2020 of the Committee for European Affairs, **the Plenum of the Senate**, during its session of June 12, 2020

1. Notes that the proposal for a Decision respects the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality.
2. Welcomes this initiative. Romania has encouraged a globally coordinated and strong response of the Union in support of partner states and multilateral organizations. Romania also supports the general approach proposed in the proposal for a Decision and the areas for action identified as a priority, as well as the balanced geographical distribution of available resources.
3. Notes that, in the case of the countries with a political association and free economic trade agreement with the European Union, as well as in the case of the candidate countries that have opened their markets to EU Member States, an imbalance has been created between EU-funded programs for Southern area to the detriment of those related to the Eastern space.
4. Expresses its hope that the European Union will supplement the financial assistance granted to these states both by increasing the amount of loan funds and by allocating non-reimbursable funds, in order to motivate these states to continue their internal reform efforts and to maintain their attachment for the European Union's values.

**p. President of the Senate
Robert – Marius CAZANCIUC**