



Parlamentul României Senat

Bucharest, June 18, 2020

Courtesy translation

OPINION of the SENATE of ROMANIA

**on the Joint Communication to the European Parliament, the European Council, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions Eastern Partnership policy beyond 2020: Reinforcing Resilience – an Eastern Partnership that delivers for all
JOIN (2020) 7 final**

The Romanian Senate examined the Joint Communication to the European Parliament, the European Council, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions - Eastern Partnership policy beyond 2020: Reinforcing Resilience – an Eastern Partnership that delivers for all – JOIN (2020) 7 final, according to the provisions of the Treaty of Lisbon (Protocol no. 1).

Based on the report of May 15 2020 of the Committee for European Affairs, **the Plenum of the Senate**, during its session of June 12, 2020

1. Welcomes:
 - a) the efforts of both parties to bring the Member States closer to of the partnership of the EU and the single market (e.g. visas, energy connectivity, transport corridors, etc.);
 - b) the adoption of this communication, recalling that this is also the result of a structured reflection process launched by Romania during the Presidency of the Council of the European Union, thus reiterating and giving more weight to the EU's commitment to the Eastern Partnership states.
2. Appreciates:
 - c) that the evaluation grid of the Eastern Partnership Member States is founded on governance and shared values through cooperation;
 - d) the agenda of the June 2020 Eastern Partnership Summit, which supports the importance of a meeting with ambitious results.
3. Notes that the Eastern Partnership is specifically important for the EU's strategic interests and therefore is a region in which the EU must continue investing.

4. Considers that:

- a) the development of the partnership must be unitary, in order to not affect the credibility of the entire project and the entire cooperation commitment;
- b) the Eastern Partnership states need to remain committed to the EU values through a clear and concrete perspective of accession, by granting gradual access to the single market and by deepening the cooperation through sectoral policies that ensure connectivity;
- c) there is a need for a more substantial involvement of the European Union in supporting the internal reform processes taking place in these countries and in developing the cooperation with the Eastern Partnership countries, including in the field of health and safety.

p. President of the Senate
Robert-Marius CAZANCIUC

