



Parlamentul României Senat

Bucharest, June 18, 2020

Courtesy translation

OPINION of the SENATE of ROMANIA

on the Joint Communication to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions - Communication on the Global EU response to COVID-19 JOIN (2020) 11 final

The Romanian Senate examined the Joint Communication to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions - Communication on the Global EU response to COVID-19 - JOIN (2020) 11 final, according to the provisions of the Treaty of Lisbon (Protocol no. 1).

Based on the report of May 25, 2020 of the Committee for European Affairs, **the Plenum of the Senate**, during its session of June, 12, 2020

1. Welcomes:
 - a) the Team Europe initiative, the general approach proposed in the Joint Communication and the areas for action identified as a priority;
 - b) the balanced geographical distribution of the available resources.
2. Appreciates that ensuring a strong and balanced EU response which meets both the needs of countries and regions of priority interest (Eastern Partnership states, the Western Balkans and the Southern Neighbourhood, especially African countries) and the challenges that most vulnerable populations and countries are facing (such as those affected by conflicts, migration or acute poverty) is a priority.
3. Emphasises that, in order to respond to the EU's call, Romania has already reconfigured 55% of its 2020 assistance and humanitarian projects, managed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Romanian Agency for International Development Cooperation (RoAid), giving priority to the following dimensions: strengthening the institutional capacity of health systems in recipient states, ensuring food security and sustainable water management and combating fake news in the context of the pandemic.

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