



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 31.7.2020
C(2020) 5354 final*

Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Senat for its Opinion on the Joint Communication from the Commission and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on the Global EU response to COVID-19 {JOIN(2020) 11 final}.

It appreciates that the Senat decided to analyse this Communication and welcomes the support for its aims. We can only fully take care of our own health and safety if we also support others. Our battle to defeat the virus internally can only be successful if we defeat the virus globally. Europe's strong partnerships around the world are thus even more relevant in tackling this pandemic and its consequences.

In this respect, on 27 May 2020, the Commission put forward its proposals for an ambitious Recovery Plan based on solidarity and fairness, deeply rooted in the Union's shared principles and values. National Parliaments have an essential role to play to enable timely adoption and implementation of the Recovery Plan. They can engage with their governments to help ensure that this package is adopted speedily and, in most Member States, they have an essential direct role in the approval of the related Own Resources Decision, once it is adopted by the Council.

The Commission believes that the political dialogue with national Parliaments is essential for linking the Institutions and the citizens of the European Union, and looks forward to continuing it with the Senat in the future.

Yours faithfully,

*Johannes Hahn
Member of the commission*

*Mr Robert-Marius CAZANCIUC
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