



Parlamentul României Senat

Bucharest, April 14, 2021

Courtesy translation

OPINION of the SENATE of ROMANIA

on the Joint Communication to the European Parliament, the European Council and the Council - A new EU-US agenda for global change JOIN(2020) 22 final

The Romanian Senate examined the Joint Communication to the European Parliament, the European Council and the Council, A new EU-US agenda for global change - JOIN(2020) 22 final - according to the provisions of the Treaty of Lisbon Protocol (no. 1).

Taking into account the report of Committee for European Affairs, **the Plenum of the Senate**, during its session of March 6, 2021

1. Notes that
 - a. the EU proposes that the new transatlantic agenda to be launched on the occasion of the EU-US Summit in the first half of 2021;
 - b. the general approach to the document is positive and constructive.
2. Appreciates
 - a. the new transatlantic agenda, by reaffirming the strategic importance of the European Union's partnership with the US to ensure a rules-based international order, as well as to strengthen international peace and security;
 - b. that increasing the level of EU independence on the global scene should be based on the principle of complementarity, and it is essential to avoid duplication with NATO;
 - c. and recalls that Romania has frequently supported the participation of non-EU Allies in the projects developed under the Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO) initiative, as well as in those funded by the European Defence Fund.
3. Considers that
 - a. the participation of US and non-EU countries partners in the EU defence initiatives could ensure added value and contribute to deepening the EU-NATO cooperation;
 - b. the strengthening of the EU's defence dimension is a tool of enhancing the EU's ability to deal more effectively with international crises and to provide support to the partners.

President of the Senate
Anca Dana DRAGU