



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

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*Mr Ion-Marcel CIOLACU
President of the Camera
Deputaților
Palace of the Parliament
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Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Camera Deputaților for its Opinion on the proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the 2030 Policy Programme “Path to the Digital Decade” {COM(2021)574 final}.

The Commission welcomes the support expressed by the Camera Deputaților on the approach and actions of the 2030 “Pathway to the Digital Decade” Policy Programme. With respect to the Camera Deputaților’s observations, the Commission would like to note the following.

The Commission firmly believes that the Path to the Digital Decade Policy Programme will be conducive to an accelerated digital transformation along its four cardinal points: digital skills, digital infrastructures, digitalisation of businesses, and of public services. Such a coherent and comprehensive approach will implicitly support several of the areas pinpointed in your opinion. The deployment of networks, including in rural areas, digital innovation, digital skills, and telemedicine are all expected to be impacted positively by this proposal.

The Policy Programme will set up a governance framework to ensure the European Union reaches its 2030 digital targets, based on transparent and shared monitoring and a structured cooperation mechanism involving the Commission and the Member States. In absence of adequate and sustained cooperation between the Commission and all the Member States, the digital transformation will remain insufficient and uneven throughout Europe. This cooperation mechanism will be set up with a minimum additional administrative burden, avoiding duplications and harnessing synergies with existing processes, such as the Digital Society and Economy Index¹ and the European Semester².

¹ [DESI | Shaping Europe’s digital future \(europa.eu\)](#)

² [The European Semester | European Commission \(europa.eu\)](#)

More generally, the Commission fully shares the view that small and medium-sized enterprises across Europe should be supported adequately to be able to fully participate to and grasp the benefits of the data-driven economy as well as to compete on the global market. This is particularly important for the small businesses, which constitute the backbone of the European economy. No businesses can be left behind: this is why the 2030 targets for digitalisation of business and adoption of advanced technologies are very ambitious.

Furthermore, the EU's regulatory framework for electronic communications strives to ensure a fair and competitive electronic communications market, while also ensuring sufficient consumer protection for citizens. The new roaming rules³ ensure not only that citizens are able to call, text and use mobile data while travelling within the EU at no extra costs and with the same quality they experience at home, but they have also improved access to emergency communications and transparency on services used while roaming.

Finally, trust and security are indeed at the heart of the EU Digital Decade. The EU Cybersecurity Strategy⁴ aims to bolster the collective resilience to cyber threats and ensure that citizens and businesses fully benefit from trustworthy digital technologies, services and tools, such as connected devices, the electricity grid, public administrations or hospitals. The strategy aims to safeguard a global and open Internet, while at the same time offering safeguards, not only to ensure security but also to protect European values and the fundamental rights of everyone. It contains concrete proposals for regulatory, investment and policy initiatives.

The Commission remains hopeful that a political agreement between the co-legislators will be reached in the near future, given the high priority the French Presidency has attributed to this Policy Programme.

The Commission hopes that the clarifications provided in this reply address the issues raised by the Camera Deputaților and looks forward to continuing the political dialogue in the future.

Yours faithfully,

*Maroš Šefčovič
Vice-President*

*Thierry Breton
Member of the Commission*

³ [Roaming: political agreement \(europa.eu\)](#)

⁴ [New EU Cybersecurity Strategy \(europa.eu\)](#)