



## Parlamentul României Senat

*Bucharest, May 11, 2022*

*Courtesy translation*

### **OPINION of the SENATE of ROMANIA on the Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council State of play as regards the situation of reciprocity with the United States in the area of visa policy COM(2021) 827 final**

The Romanian Senate examined the Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council - State of play as regards the situation of reciprocity with the United States in the area of visa policy - COM(2021) 827 final – according to the provisions of the Treaty of Lisbon, Protocol (no. 1).

Taking into account the report of the Committee on European Affairs, the Plenary of the Senate, during its session of May 2, 2022,

- 1) Considers that:
  - a) the assessment of the Commission is that the introduction of visas for US citizens would not lead to achieving the goal of visa-free to the US for all EU citizens and could endanger visa-free travel to the US for EU citizens from countries other than Romania, Bulgaria and Cyprus;
  - b) the commitment of the Commission to full visa reciprocity for all EU Member States is reiterated as a priority. It also underlines that it will continue the dialogue with the US and the three envisaged Member States to achieve the goal of full visa reciprocity. To this end, it will continue to report regularly on the progress made and will inform the European Parliament and the Council.
- 2) Supports that:
  - a) Romania and the EU share the objective of ensuring full reciprocity with the US, to this end being engaged in a sustained and constructive dialogue between the US and the three EU Member States that have not yet joined the Visa Waiver Program, on the one hand, and between the US and the Commission, on the other hand;
  - b) Romania encourages the Commission to step up efforts to ensure full visa reciprocity with the US.
- 3) Recommends that the Commission should step up its efforts to ensure full visa reciprocity with the US.