



## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Brussels, 5.8.2016  
C(2016) 4008 final

*Dear Presidents,*

*The Commission would like to thank the Congreso de los Diputados and the Senado for their Opinion on the proposal for a Council Decision authorising enhanced cooperation in the area of jurisdiction, applicable law and the recognition and enforcement of decisions on the property regimes of international couples, covering both matters of matrimonial property regimes and the property consequences of registered partnerships {COM(2016) 108 final}, the proposal for a Council Regulation on jurisdiction, applicable law and the recognition and enforcement of decisions in matters of matrimonial property regimes {COM(2016) 106 final} and the proposal for a Council Regulation on jurisdiction, applicable law and the recognition and enforcement of decisions in matters of the property consequences of registered partnerships {COM(2016) 107 final}.*

*The Commission notes that Union citizens, making use of their right to free movement, increasingly move across national borders and that this leads to a greater number of couples with an international dimension. In the absence of common rules in the Member States on the matters covered by the proposals, international couples face difficulties when managing their property or when sharing it in case of separation or the death of one of their members.*

*The Commission is pleased that the Congreso de los Diputados and the Senado share the view that action at Union level as envisaged in the proposals is required to facilitate the free movement of citizens by granting international couples, including both spouses and registered partners, greater predictability and legal certainty to manage their property relations in respect of themselves and others during their life as a couple and when liquidating their property.*

*After the European Parliament gave its consent on 8 June, the Council adopted the Decision authorising enhanced cooperation on 9 June. At the Council meeting, Estonia announced its intention to join soon the enhanced cooperation, which will bring to 19 the number of Member States participating therein. Following the opinion of the European Parliament, the Council adopted the Regulations implementing the enhanced cooperation on 24 June. The Regulations will fill an important gap in the field of Union family law.*

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*Mr Pio GARCÍA-ESCUADERO MÁRQUEZ  
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*The Commission welcomes the support of the Congreso de los Diputados and the Senado to the proposals and looks forward to continuing the political dialogue in the future.*

*Yours faithfully,*

*Věra Jourová*

*Member of the Commission*