



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

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Dear Presidents,

The Commission would like to thank the Cortes Generales for its opinion on the proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 96/71/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 1996 concerning the posting of workers in the framework of the provision of services {COM(2016) 128 final}.

As the Cortes Generales will know, the Commission received reasoned opinions from fourteen chambers in eleven Member States on the proposal. On 11 May 2016 it confirmed the triggering of the procedure laid down in Article 7(2) of Protocol No 2 to the Treaties. The Commission carefully analysed the reasoned opinions received, and adopted on 20 July 2016 a Communication {COM (2016) 505 final}, in which it addressed the different concerns and arguments on subsidiarity raised by national Parliaments in their reasoned opinions. The Commission concluded that its proposal complies with the principle of subsidiarity enshrined in Article 5(3) of the Treaty on European Union and therefore decided to maintain the proposal.

The Commission is pleased that the Cortes Generales also came to the conclusion that the proposal was not in breach of the principle of subsidiarity, with a reasoning very similar to the one developed by the Commission in its Communication of 20 July 2016.

The Commission would like to underline the great importance it attaches to its relationship with national Parliaments and to ensuring that they have a strong voice in European decision-making.

The Commission looks forward to continuing the political dialogue in the future.

Yours faithfully,

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First Vice-President*

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