



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

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*Ms Ana PASTOR
President of the
Congreso de los Diputados
Floridablanca s/n
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*Mr Pío GARCÍA-ESCUADERO
MÁRQUEZ
President of the Senado
Plaza de la Marina Española,8
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Dear Presidents,

The Commission would like to thank the Congreso de los Diputados and the Senado for their Opinion on the Proposal for a Regulation on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 and Decision No 1247/2002/EC {COM(2017) 8 final}.

The Commission welcomes the conclusion of the Congreso de los Diputados and the Senado on the above-mentioned proposal. In April 2016, the General Data Protection Regulation¹ and the Data Protection Directive for Police and Criminal Justice Authorities² were adopted. This new proposal is very important because it builds on the reform of the protection of personal data that the Commission set out to achieve. The data protection rules which apply to Union institutions and bodies will be updated by aligning them with those of the General Data Protection Regulation. This means that citizens will enjoy a level of protection of their personal data by Union institutions similar to that of national public administrations.

¹ Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC, OJ L 119, 4.5.2016, p. 1–88.

² Directive (EU) 2016/680 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by competent authorities for the purposes of the prevention, investigation, detection or prosecution of criminal offences or the execution of criminal penalties, and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Council Framework Decision 2008/977/JHA, OJ L 119, 4.5.2016, p. 89–131.

The importance of this proposal has been highlighted by its inclusion in the Joint Declaration on the European Union's legislative priorities for 2017 of the European Parliament, the Council and the European Commission³.

The Commission looks forward to continuing the political dialogue with the Congreso de los Diputados and the Senado in the future.

Yours faithfully,

*Frans Timmermans
First Vice-President*

*Věra Jourová
Member of the Commission*

³ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/publications/joint-declaration-eus-legislative-priorities-2017_en