



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 10.7.2017
C(2017) 4761 final*

Dear President,

The Commission would like to thank the Riksdag for its Opinion on the Commission Work Programme for 2017 {COM(2016) 710 final}.

As is stated in the Riksdag's Opinion, the Commission Work Programme has focused on major issues, better regulation, transparency and dialogue with national Parliaments.

The Commission has already presented some of the initiatives announced under the Youth initiative, the Circular economy action plan and the implementation of the Energy Union Strategy. The proposal for the European Pillar of Social Rights, the Mid-term review of the implementation of the Digital Single Market Strategy and the initiatives on school and higher education were presented on 26 April, 10 May and 30 May 2017 respectively. Other proposals are being developed and will be put forward later in the year.

In this context, the Commission appreciates the opinion of the Swedish Riksdag regarding the priority given to education under the Youth initiative. The Commission agrees with the consideration given to cooperation and exchange of experiences in relation to education. In its actions, the Commission therefore seeks to assist and support Member States in improving their education and training systems.

The Commission welcomes the Riksdag's continued support for the efforts to boost the economy and pursue structural reforms, while fully respecting Member States' competences in relation to budget, taxation and social policies. Consumer protection remains an essential element of the Digital Single Market Strategy and the Single Market Strategy. In March 2017 the Commission presented an action plan setting out a strategy to strengthen the European Union single market for retail financial services.

*Mr Urban AHLIN
Speaker of the Riksdag
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The Commission takes note of the Riksdag's emphasis on the importance of the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality. The Commission wishes to reassure the Riksdag that where actions are further pursued by means of enhanced cooperation, the interests of non-participating Member States are fully respected.

The Commission hopes that these clarifications address the questions and issues raised by the Riksdag and looks forward to continuing our political dialogue in the future.

Yours faithfully,

*Frans Timmermans
First Vice-President*