



Parlamentul României
Senat

Bucharest, 4 April 2018

Courtesy translation

**OPINION
of the ROMANIAN SENATE**

regarding the Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions

A credible enlargement perspective for and enhanced EU engagement with the Western Balkans

COM (2018) 65 final

The Romanian Senate examined the Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions - A credible enlargement perspective for and enhanced EU engagement with the Western Balkans – COM (2018) 65 final - according to the provisions of the Treaty of Lisbon (Protocol no. 1).

Based on the report of March 28, 2018 of our permanent Committee on European Affairs, the plenum of the Senate, during its session of April 4, 2018, decided as follows:

(1) Considers that the Neighbourhood perspective in the East and South-East is in fact a continuity, and Romania's position is that granting a clear perspective of integration must not cancel or limit the chances of granting a European evolution to the Eastern area, starting with the Republic of Moldova, because, de facto and perhaps legally, giving a clear vision of the Balkans and focusing the priority in the upcoming cycle in the South will risks shutting down a longer-term European future for countries such as the Republic of Moldova, Georgia and Ukraine.

p. President of the Senate

Iulian-Claudiu MANDA