

Hungarian National Assembly Committee on European Affairs

Opinion of the Committee on European Affairs

by virtue of Article 145 of Resolution 10/2014 (II.24.) OGY on certain provisions of the Rules of Procedure

concerning the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on setting out the conditions and procedure by which the Commission may request undertakings and associations of undertakings to provide information in relation to the internal market and related areas

(hereinafter: proposal) [COM (2017) 257; 2017/0087 (COD)]

The Committee on European Affairs

- after having discussed at its meeting of 7 June 2017 the proposal presented by the representative of the Ministry of Justice, expressed its reservations as follows;
- points out that the European Commission should enforce the rules enshrined in the EU Treaties and secondary legislation by respecting the purpose limitation and the principle of proportionality;
- considers that the wide-ranging scope of the proposal is not justifiable because it covers – besides the internal market – also EU policies, and thus it is difficult to define the range of the undertakings concerned;
- expresses its concerns that the existence of "a serious difficulty with the application of Union law" is exclusively left to the appreciation of the European Commission;
- finds that the authorisation granted for the European Commission in Article 4 is contrary to the principle of proportionality and expresses its concerns regarding the protection of the commercially sensitive data, the administrative burdens and possible fines for not responding to requests;
- expresses its serious reservations regarding the protection of confidential information, and in this regard considers the power granted for the European Commission in Article 7 (4) is excessive. According to its opinion the access by the European Commission should be avoided to the confidential information, which is not available for the Member State concerned;

- is of the opinion that the necessity of the proposal is not justifiable, since several means are currently available for the European Commission for maintaining the well-functioning of the internal market;
- in the light of the above-mentioned arguments, does not support the proposal and invites the Government to act in the Council by taking into account this opinion.

Budapest, 15 June 2017