

THE SENATE OF THE PARLIAMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC 11^{TH} TERM

456TH

RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE

Delivered on the 16th session held on 19th July 2018

on the Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No 810/2009 establishing a Community Code on Visas (Visa Code)

Senate Print no. N 116/11, COM(2018) 252

The Senate

I.

1. Welcomes and appreciates

the proposed linkage between visa and return policies and the introduction of a regime of less favorable conditions when processing visas to nationals of countries that insufficiently cooperate on readmissions;

II.

1. Requests, however,

supporting the Position of the Czech Government in this regard, that the regime of less favorable conditions be primarily aimed at specific groups of citizens (such as official representatives) of the country and only in a second stage target regular travelers, if still necessary;

2. Does not support

the intention to establish a specific scheme of granting a tourist visa at the external borders; it is the opinion of the Senate that the personnel at the border crossing points does not possess sufficient time and capacities to asses a visa application adequately; the Senate already expressed its discontent with the temporary visa issuance at the external borders in its Resolution No. 615 from October 2014 on the legislative package proposing more flexible visa rules;

3. Is also of the opinion

that, taking into account time and security concerns, it is desirable to keep the 15 days deadline for processing a visa application rather than to shorten it to

10 days; this position was also expressed in the 615^{th} Resolution from October 2014;

4. Supports

the proposed changes aimed at making the visa application process simpler such as the option to submit an application electronically without a need for personal presence at a Consular Office, as well as further harmonization of issuing multiple entry visas with longer validity;

5. Agrees

with the proposed increase of the fee for issuing a Schengen visa;

6. Requests,

in accord with the Government, that the review of factual findings on the basis of which an application was denied be excluded from the scope of judicial appeal;

III.

1. Requests

the Government to inform the Senate about the way this resolution was taken into account and about further development of negotiations once the political agreement of the required number of Member States on the main elements of the proposals is reached, or at an earlier time, should the results of negotiations in the Council begin to depart considerably from the position of the Czech Republic expressed in the General Position of the Government;

2. Authorizes

the President of the Senate to forward this resolution to the European Commission.

Milan Štěch sign manual President of the Senate

> Michael Canov sign manual Senate Verifier