

PARLAMENT ČESKÉ REPUBLIKY Poslanecká sněmovna předseda výboru pro evropské záležitosti Mgr. Ondřej Benešík

Prague, 21 January 2016

Dear Mr. President,

I would like to inform you about the opinion of the Committee for European Affairs of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic

on the Act concerning the election of the members of the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage /Council No. 14743/15, APP(2015) 907/

The respective document was included in the agenda of the 42<sup>nd</sup> session of the Committee for European Affairs and was scrutinized on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2016. According to the Rules of Procedure of the Chamber of Deputies a Deputy Minister of the Interior was present at the session to introduce the preliminary government's framework position.

After the hearing of the rapporteur's review and after the discussion the Committee has adopted the resolution No. 216 which is enclosed to this letter.

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Enclosure

**Mr. Jean-Claude Juncker** President of the European Commission

Brussels

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## PARLIAMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC Chamber of Deputies Committee for European Affairs

## Resolution No. 216

## 42<sup>nd</sup> Session on 14 January 2016

on the Act concerning the election of the members of the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage

## **Conclusions of the Resolution:**

Committee for European Affairs

1. **does not support** introduced Proposal for a Council decision adopting the provisions amending the Act concerning the election of the members of the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage;

2. **does not believe** it is necessary to harmonize rules for elections to the European Parliament at present, with the exception of the definition of a common date for holding the elections and terms for publication of election results;

3. **can not agree** with reasoning presented by the European Parliament concerning i) issues of gender equality in the context of European Parliament elections, ii) opportunities of European political parties to fulfill its mandate under the existing framework, and iii) linking together nomination of candidates for President of the European Commission with the European Parliament elections;

4. **supports** the recommendations contained in the proposal concerning introduction of postal voting for citizens located in third countries and an option to use electronic and internet voting;

5. **authorizes** the Chairman of the Committee to notify the European Parliament and the European Commission of this resolution.

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