



# THE SENATE OF THE PARLIAMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

## 10<sup>TH</sup> TERM

### RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE

#### 220<sup>th</sup> RESOLUTION

delivered on the 11<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2015

#### **on the joint letter of members of parliaments of EU member states to the European Commission (so-called "green card") on food waste**

#### **The Senate**

##### **1. Refers to**

its 106<sup>th</sup> Resolution from 7<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2015 on the possible introduction of a "green card" as a means of interparliamentary co-ordination in EU affairs, in which it supported the proposed informal coordination between parliaments of EU member states consisting in sending joint letters to the European Commission with an appeal to take certain legislative or non-legislative measures falling within EU competence (so-called "green card");

##### **2. Has acquainted itself**

with the draft green card presented by the House of Lords of the Parliament of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on food waste, which consists especially of the following recommendations to the European Commission:

- introduction of EU food donation guidelines for food donors and food banks (in line with the waste hierarchy, unsold food should – in the first instance – be re-distributed for charitable purposes);
- co-ordination of sharing of best practice between the member states on food waste prevention, reduction and management strategies, including research and innovation;
- monitoring of the business-to-business cross-border food supply chain with the objectives of avoiding unfair practices that lead to the wastage of food and of encouraging an integrated approach throughout the supply chain to prevent and reduce food waste;
- a European Commission recommendation on the definition of food waste and on data collection, building on the work of the EU-wide project FUSIONS;
- establishment of a working group within the Commission to assess the consideration of food waste within policy making across the Commission.

##### **3. Considers**

an effective prevention of food waste and a functioning system of redistribution of unsold food for charitable purposes to be important objectives of public policy and considers it appropriate that in particular the exchange of information and best practice between the member states, as well as the monitoring of practices of cross-border business-to-business food supply chains should take place at the EU level, in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity;

**4. Welcomes**

the positive opinion of the Ministry of Agriculture on the proposed green card (to the extent that it falls within the scope of competence of the Ministry), as well as the information that a national action plan for food waste prevention will be prepared;

**5. Therefore subscribes**

to the joint letter of members of 16 parliaments or parliamentary chambers of EU member states from 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2015 to the President of the European Commission on food waste and points out that the initiatives presented in the letter may be realised through the already existing Commission Working Group on Food Waste;

**6. Authorises**

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

Milan Štěch  
sign manual  
President of the Senate

Leopold Sulovský  
sign manual  
Senate Verifier