

OPINION

**of the European Union Affairs Committee of the Senate of the Republic of Poland
on the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council
on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the
Member States concerning the manufacture, presentation and sale
of tobacco and related products**

COM(2012)788

adopted at the sitting of 6 February 2013

1. The European Union Affairs Committee (EUAC) supports the proposed directive on the approximation of Member State laws concerning tobacco products. In particular, EUAC supports the measures, substantiated by research or long-standing experience, which aim to discourage, especially children and teenagers, from taking up smoking tobacco.
2. EUAC is against maintaining and legalising mail order sale of tobacco products. Using the Internet to that end, like the sale from vending machines, would facilitate minors' uncontrolled access to tobacco, which is contrary to one of the main declared objectives of the proposed directive.
3. In the opinion of EUAC, the European Union should create an instrument of support for tobacco farmers to compensate them for their losses related to the entry into force of the proposed directive, for example by enabling them to change their production profile.