

NICOLAS SCHMIT MITGLIED DER EUROPÄISCHEN KOMMISSION BESCHÄFTIGUNG UND SOZIALE RECHTE

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Brussels, Ares (2021)

Dear Ms Avonto,

I would like to thank you for your letter of 21 May 2021.

The Recovery plan for Europe ("Next Generation EU") provides tremendous firepower with the EUR 750 billion Recovery and Resilience Facility to help repair the economic and social damage brought about by the coronavirus pandemic. It supports Member States by strengthening national economies and making them more sustainable, resilient and inclusive. With this in mind, the European Commission works in close cooperation with the Italian authorities to ensure that these additional resources bring real benefits to citizens.

It is important to ensure an effective coordination of all financial instruments, including the Recovery Assistance for Cohesion and the Territories of Europe (REACT–EU), the current European Social Fund resources, the 2021-2027 programming period with the European Social Fund Plus and the Recovery and Resilience Facility, so as to support the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights, including its principle 19 on Housing and assistance for the homeless.

I am grateful for the contribution of your organisation and the third sector in Italy and in the EU to support vulnerable people especially in times of crisis such as the one we experience due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

I strongly believe in social and civil dialogue and continuously remind Member States, including Italy, of the obligation and importance to actively involve civil society organisations in developing and implementing reforms that impact positively on people's lives.

Ms Cristina Avonto President fio.PSD ONLUS Via di Casal Boccone, 220 – 00137 Roma, Italia segreteria@fiopsd.org



Concerning the allocation of the Recovery and Resilience Facility resources, Italy has submitted its Recovery and Resilience Plan on 30 April. The Commission just approved it and will subsequently make a proposal to the Council for the approval of the plan.

I conclude by underlining that the European Commission will continue its support, guidance and monitoring of activities to ensure the optimal use of Next Generation EU and the other European funds.

Yours sincerely,

Nicolas Schmit