

**Question for written answer E-000039/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Beatriz Becerra Basterrechea (ALDE)

Subject: Setting of an Internet fee in the Autonomous Community of Catalonia (Spain)

Last December, Law No 15/2014, approved by the Parliament of Catalonia, came into effect. This Law set a fee of EUR 0.25 per month for each ADSL connection, fixed or mobile, for the purpose of funding the Catalan audiovisual sector. This fee could increase the cost of Internet access, and would, therefore, aggravate the fact that Spain is the EU Member State with the second highest Internet charges, as shown in the European Commission study published last March.

Some months ago, the Hungarian government was criticised by the Commission for setting an Internet fee. Commissioner for Digital Agenda Neelie Kroes stated that this project was going 'in the wrong direction' as it affected users and the digital growth of that country.

In the light of these events, I would like to ask the Commission:

1. Has the Commission received information regarding Law No 15/2014, as required by Community legislation?
2. Does the Commission consider that setting an Internet access fee is the best form of funding assistance to the film industry?
3. Does the Commission consider that this fee will have a negative impact on consumers, by increasing the cost of Internet access?