

**Question for written answer E-001465/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Beatriz Becerra Basterrechea (ALDE)

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

Parliamentary Question E-00039/15, addressing the Commission, concerned Law No 15/2014 recently passed by the Parliament of Catalonia which 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. As stated in that question, some months ago the Hungarian government was criticised by the European Commission for setting an Internet fee, as it affected users and the digital growth of that country.

Bearing in mind the aforesaid, and further to my previous question:

1. Does the Commission not think that the fee constitutes a restriction on freedom to provide services and freedom of establishment, enshrined in Articles 56 and 49 TFEU, to the extent that it makes it difficult for operators to access the Catalan market, and therefore the Spanish market, if they are not established in Catalonia?
2. Did the Spanish Government notify the Commission of the new law as required under Directive 98/34/EC laying down a procedure for the provision of information in the field of technical standards and regulations? If not, how does the Commission plan to act to correct this violation?