

**Question for written answer E-001881/2015  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Olga Sehnalová (S&D)**

Subject: The problem of trans-border railway links

One reason for the meagre attractiveness of trans-border rail links is the disproportionately high prices of international tickets, which are set using an international tariff. This arises from the 1985 Convention concerning International Carriage by Rail (COTIF). Because this convention is in effect, travel fares are 4 times higher than normal fares for travel within a country, and in most cases stations of the two Member States are only a few kilometres apart. The high fares put a lot of potential passengers off using these links. Due to the low level of interest from passengers, regions have no interest in commissioning trans-border regional links.

1. Is the Commission going to address the question of the international rail transport tariff in some way?
2. In what way does the Commission intend to prevent the decline in the number of regional links in international rail transport which is impeding citizens' mobility?