

**Question for written answer E-004178/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Inês Cristina Zuber (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: Restrictions on the right to mobility - isolation of the island of Porto Santo

Air and sea transport services between the islands of Madeira and Porto Santo, and between Porto Santo and mainland Portugal, are not only infrequent but very expensive, which is aggravating the situation of two-fold insularity in which the population of Porto Santo already finds itself. The airline company Aerovip, which won the public tender to operate the regular Porto Santo-Funchal route, is offering just one flight a day, with ticket prices that are higher than those for flights between mainland Portugal and Funchal. Also, since 2014, the airline company TAP has cut the direct flight between Porto Santo and Lisbon. This is creating difficulties for the population of Porto Santo in terms of mobility and access to services such as medical care, but is also increasing the population's isolation because of its impact on the island's services and its economic, social and cultural life.

1. What measures can be taken and instruments used at Community level to support the provision of this important public service, which has a positive impact on the local and socioeconomic development of the region?
2. Can Cohesion Policy 2014-2020 for the outermost regions include mobility subsidies for people living in those regions?