

**Question for written answer E-006283/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Enrico Gasbarra (S&D)

Subject: Tourist visas

Data on tourist destinations worldwide show that Europe's market share in world tourism has sharply declined, dropping from 64 % in 1980 to 51 % in 2010, due to lengthy, cumbersome visa procedures. In light of this, does the Commission intend to revise the rules relating to tourist visas, to prevent Europe continuing to lose six million potential tourists a year?

In addition, what measures and steps does it intend to take to ensure that, while applications are subject to a rigorous check, the procedure is simpler and more flexible for visa applicants?