

**Question for written answer E-009231/2015**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Adam Szejnfeld (PPE)**

Subject: Set-top boxes and the digital single market

The modern world is a mobile world. We are born in one place, go to university in another, then live and work in yet another. It is unsurprising, therefore, that we rely on modern technologies more and more. The internet, mobile phones and television have become an integral part of our everyday lives and we would be unable to function without them. Unfortunately, the rules currently in place mean that we are not always able to take advantage of all the possibilities offered by the digital revolution.

For instance, within the internal market, encrypted channels may not be watched outside the country in which the set-top box was purchased. This is because most contracts offered by pay-television providers do not allow the set-top box card to be used in other EU Member States. As a result, when the customer leaves the country of purchase, they lose not only money but also the rights they purchased.

In light of the proposed digital single market strategy for the EU, does the Commission intend to take steps to resolve the issue of TV providers placing restrictions on or preventing the use of their set-top boxes outside the country of purchase?