

**Question for written answer E-014005/2015**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Jana Žitňanská (ECR)**

Subject: Calypso project: continuing the initiative and upcoming calls for interest

The Calypso initiative is an excellent idea whose objective is not only to make travel possible for four groups of people who would otherwise not be able to do so, but also to boost tourism, support jobs in the tourism industry and mitigate low-season losses. In spite of all that, however, only about half of all Member States have taken part in the 10 projects launched since 2009. Although many people from the target groups would happily benefit from the initiative, information on the project is unclear, difficult to find and does not make it clear what opportunities are being planned and who they will be targeted at.

The Calypso initiative forms part of Slovakia's 2020 strategy for the development of tourism and Parliament's report on support for tourism in the EU. Both the institutions and the Member States would like it to continue.

1. What are the Commission's latest plans for the Calypso initiative, what calls for interest will it be announcing in the near future and which of the target groups will it be addressing?
2. Has an overall evaluation report been drawn up for the Calypso initiative (since 2010), assessing the projects, the Member States involved and the financial side of the initiative? If so, will the Commission use the findings of the evaluation to improve the initiative?
3. How does the Commission plan to raise awareness of the initiative?