

**Question for written answer E-000101/2016
to the Commission**

Rule 130

José Inácio Faria (ALDE)

Subject: Venezuela and Portugal: air fare differences

There are about 1.3 million Portuguese emigrants in Venezuela, a diaspora that maintains ties with its homeland with the aid of the Portuguese airline TAP. There is, however, a huge disparity between the TAP fares for flights from Caracas to Lisbon and those from Lisbon to Caracas (amounting to roughly three times as much). This discrepancy constitutes a barrier to free movement of persons and serves to isolate the people concerned – who are also European citizens – from their country of origin.

Is the Commission aware of these fares and does it consider them to amount to an abusive practice by TAP?

What steps will it take to remove this barrier to the movement of passengers seeking to travel to the EU?