Question for written answer E-009132/2016 to the Commission Rule 130 Hugues Bayet (S&D)

Subject: Services passport in the construction industry

As part of the single market strategy, the Commission intends to propose the introduction of a services passport by the end of 2016. The aim is to simplify administrative procedures for service providers who want to extend their activities to other Member States.

The proposal has met with much opposition, however. One of the main problems which has been highlighted is the validity of the services passport in the host Member State. In the light of the information provided by the Commission thus far, host Member States will not be able to challenge the validity of the services passport - the new system will be based on the principle of 'mutual trust' between States. What is more, some mechanisms linked to the services passport (such as the harmonised system for giving notice) could undermine existing national measures to combat social dumping (e.g. LIMOSA). Today, industry-wide identification systems, such as the Construbadge, which are reliable, secure against fraud, easy to check and attested by inspection services in the country of employment, are more useful than a services passport would be.

Does the Commission intend to change its proposal, to avoid creating unfair competition between Member States and in an effort to meet the needs of the construction industry?