Question for written answer E-002357/2017 to the Commission Rule 130 Deirdre Clune (PPE)

Subject: Smaller scale platform business, data availability and EU rail passenger rights

Since 2007, and the latest regulation on rail passenger rights (Regulation (EC) No 1371/2007), in conjunction with the rising importance of platforms in the European economy, new technology now allows different rail operator tickets to be put on the same 'through booking', which shows the travel time and price. This provides the consumer with greater choice and affordability while helping boost Europe's connectivity.

However, this can only be done if independent ticket vendors have access to the required data. Unfortunately, such ticket vendors still do not have access to all of the data required, as many elements of the last rail passenger rights regulation are not adequately enforced. This is particularly true concerning access to pre-journey information concerning the lowest available fares and the fastest journeys. There is also a lack of access to real-time information on delays.

Is the Commission aware of this problem? Can it indicate whether it has any intended actions to address this issue in the interest of boosting Europe's connectivity, providing greater choice to consumers and promoting competition?

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