

**Question for written answer E-004185/2017**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Adam Szejnfeld (PPE)**

Subject: Charges for international calls within the European Union

The abolition of roaming charges throughout the EU will undoubtedly make life easier for millions of European travellers, and will also provide an incentive to many businesses – in particular, SMEs – to make greater use of cross-border business opportunities.

However, it is difficult not to notice that mobility, which the EU is also promoting, is increasingly associated with longer stays in another Member States than would be the case with typical tourism- or business-related trips. This situation applies in particular to people who are posted workers or who are working abroad on service contracts. It also applies to students, including those participating in Erasmus+ exchanges, who wish to maintain contact with their friends and family. At the same time, an increasing number of businesses are maintaining stable relationships with foreign partners. For such telecommunication service consumers, of even greater importance than roaming charges are charges for international calls, which remain very high.

In this connection, could the Commission say when it intends to take steps to reduce or align charges for international telephone calls and data transfers within the EU? Is the Commission in possession of detailed analyses of the potential costs of such a reform?