Question for written answer E-007780/2017 to the Commission Rule 130 Jana Žitňanská (ECR)

Subject: European social services portal

The free movement of people, goods and services within the European Union also implies the possibility of people using social services in a Member State other than the one of which they are nationals. Such a possibility would be advantageous for users of social services, who would have a wider choice, especially if they require specialised services which may not be available in every Member State. Moreover, some Member States are struggling with shortages of places in social service facilities, leaving them unable to cover the needs of their citizens. Promoting mobility in this area would help compensate for the shortage of places in such facilities. Therefore, the concept of a European portal that provides brief descriptions of all the social services available in the Member States could be very helpful for citizens who are considering using such services abroad.

In this connection:

Does the Commission plan to create a European portal where citizens could find out what social service facilities exist in the various Member States, the services that they provide, how much those services cost, and how many free places are available at a given point? If so, in what time frame?

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