

**Question for written answer E-002185/2018
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Anneleen Van Bossuyt (ECR)

Subject: WiFi4EU Regulation

On 25 October 2017, the European Parliament and the Council approved the WiFi4EU Regulation. The Regulation states that, by 2020, the EU will allocate EUR 120 million to between 6 000 and 8 000 municipalities with the aim of funding free public hotspots in municipalities where they are not yet available. On 6 February 2018, the Commission, in cooperation with the participating Member States, published a list of all the municipalities permitted to register for this. The first registration stage started on 20 March on the Commission's online WiFi4EU portal.

Under the Regulation, the municipalities are responsible for choosing a site which qualifies for connection. However, they are not allowed to select a location where WiFi is already being made available publicly or privately. On the other hand, an existing WiFi network can be upgraded using the same vouchers.

1. In view of the published lists and the growing number of registrations, has the Commission calculated how many municipalities are eligible for a WiFi connection?
2. Has the Commission significantly extended the scope of the Regulation by also admitting towns and municipalities which already provide WiFi (free of charge) or by also allocating resources to the upgrading of existing networks?