

**Question for oral answer O-000086/2013  
to the Commission**

Rule 115

**Jens Rohde**

on behalf of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

Subject: The Digital Agenda for Growth, Mobility and Employment: Time to move up a gear

Achieving the potential of the digital economy in the EU would have a high multiplier effect in the economy, leading to increased growth and more jobs in the EU. Unlocking this potential is therefore one of the most important levers for helping the EU to find a way out of the present crisis.

The current Digital Agenda targets are no longer ambitious enough to ensure that the EU is at the front of the digital revolution and a global leader in electronic communications by 2020. For example, estimates are that 50 billion devices will be connected to the internet by 2020 and global data traffic is expected to grow 15-fold by the end of 2017. This exponential growth in broadband traffic will require ambitious policies at Union and Member State level to increase the capacity in both our fixed and mobile networks, as well as investment in new networks. In short, the EU needs more ambitious and forward-looking targets for 2020.

1. How will the measures currently on the table concretely help to address this challenge?
2. How does the Commission see the relationship between the new proposals for the internal market in electronic communications that have been announced and the next broad review of the regulatory framework for electronic communications as a whole?

Furthermore, in its resolution Parliament reminds the Commission that the gap between roaming tariffs and national tariffs should be closed by 2015.

3. Does the Commission believe that the 2012 Roaming Regulation will create a roaming-free Europe by 2015?
4. If not, will the Commission use its right of initiative to propose concrete measures to abolish roaming charges by 2015?

Tabled: 11.7.2013

Forwarded: 15.7.2013

Deadline for reply: 22.7.2013