

WRITTEN QUESTION E-0267/03  
by Laura González Álvarez (GUE/NGL)  
to the Commission

Subject: Abuse of a dominant position and misleading advertising by the airlines Spanair and Iberia (Spain)

The consumer group Unión de Consumidores de Asturias has denounced the latest advertising campaign by the airlines Iberia and Spanair as concealing important information from the consumer (e.g. having to spend the Saturday night at the destination, stay for a maximum of ten days, book their tickets at least four days before departure, etc.) as being a violation of Directive 97/55/EC<sup>1</sup> on misleading advertising.

Moreover, Unión de Consumidores de Asturias has accused these airline companies and Air Nostrum of ticket price fixing, which would constitute an abuse of a dominant position and a contravention of Article 82 of the EC Treaty on the exploitation of dominant positions.

Is the Commission aware of this situation?

What measures will it adopt, as guardian of the Treaties, to ensure compliance with Community law in the case in point?

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 290, 23.10.1997, p. 18.