

**Question for written answer E-003218/2011  
to the Commission**  
Rule 117  
**Knut Fleckenstein (S&D)**

Subject: Review of Directive 90/314/EEC on package travel, package holidays and package tours

Article 4(1)(b) of Council Directive 90/314/EEC of 13 June 1990 on package travel, package holidays and package tours provides:

'The organizer and/or retailer shall also provide the consumer, in writing or any other appropriate form, with the following information in good time before the start of the journey: (i) the times and places of intermediate stops and transport connections as well as details of the place to be occupied by the traveller'.

The organiser's and/or retailer's obligation to provide information on departure and arrival times is not explicitly mentioned, but is included in the obligation to provide information on the place to be occupied. Information on this place cannot be provided if the specific means of transport, and thus departure and arrival times, are not known.

The term 'in good time' is not precisely defined in the directive. The consequence of this imprecision is that providers of package travel do not indicate the exact times of departure and arrival until shortly before the date of travel. Even times given shortly before the date of travel are not binding and can be changed by the organiser and/or retailer.

In its 2011 Work Programme, the Commission announced a review of Directive 90/314/EEC in early 2011. What reasons can it give for not having begun the review of the directive? What is the Commission's new timeframe for reviewing the directive?

In the public consultation carried out by the Commission in 2009, the problem mentioned above was not addressed. Is the Commission aware of the problem? In this specific respect, does it consider that the directive has been correctly transposed into national law? If not, how does it intend to enforce European law in the Member States?