

**Question for written answer E-011212/2012  
to the Commission  
Rule 117  
Petru Constantin Luhan (PPE)**

Subject: European tourism statistics

One of the main topics of current discussion is the need to boost the EU's global competitiveness, and tourism is a key socio-economic activity, generating around 5% of the European Union's GDP.

We must therefore do our utmost to remain the number one tourist destination in the world. To achieve this, we need to make maximum use of every possible funding option and develop and mobilise instruments and programmes providing Community support which are specially tailored to the development of tourism in Europe, in keeping with objectives of the Europe 2020 strategy.

To ensure the development of a sustainable, responsible, high-quality tourism sector, it is vital to update and improve the legal framework for European statistics in this area. How does the Commission plan to improve the quality of statistical reporting, based on reliable, comparative data, in order to provide a solid foundation for decisions on Community financial policies and instruments?