

**Question for written answer E-003692/2018  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Maria Gabriela Zoană (S&D)**

Subject: River tourism

A strong recovery in tourism for 2017 included very good results for river tourism,

which registered a 13% increase compared to 2016. 2017 was a particularly good year for 'barge hotels' (passenger figures up 7%) and cruise ships (+ 9%).

This tourism sector still has great potential. with new niche markets to be developed along all EU inland waterways, including nautical pursuits such as yachting and canoeing, as well as activities such as cycling, walking or horse riding along river and canal paths - for both EU and non-EU tourists.

In view of this, what support will the Commission provide for local and regional authority initiatives to expand this sector and encourage these activities at national and cross-border level, as well as promoting 'river tourism' abroad in a bid to attract more third-country tourists in line with EU objectives?

