

**Question for written answer E-000800/2019
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Matt Carthy (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Cross-border charges issued by car rental operators

The EU's Motor Insurance Directive states that motor insurance from one Member State can be used in all Member States and no additional insurance needs to be purchased before crossing an internal EU border. It has come to my attention, however, that several car hire companies (Europcar, Enterprise, Budget, Avis, Alamo, Hertz and Green Motion) have charged additional insurance costs to citizens who had rented a car in the Republic of Ireland or the north of Ireland and crossed either side of the Irish border. Such car hire charges for crossing the Irish border have a negative impact on tourism and reduce connectivity on the island of Ireland.

1. Is the Commission aware of charges issued by car hire companies to people when crossing the Irish border?
2. Do the described cross-border insurance charges breach EU law?
3. How does the Commission intend to stop car hire companies from charging additional insurance to tourists who are crossing borders within the EU?