

**Question for written answer E-002354/2019
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Ruža Tomašić (ECR)

Subject: Internet availability as a prerequisite for the development of entrepreneurship and tourism

The lack of internet availability in smaller towns and villages, as well as in large cities, especially in older buildings, is causing difficulties for the smooth development of entrepreneurship and tourism since the cost of laying optical cables to serve such users is excessive.

Is there a way in which the Commission could encourage telecoms operators to improve infrastructure investments in wired, optical and wireless communication?

Are there any examples of positive practices in this area in the EU?