Question for written answer E-004035/2019 to the Commission Rule 138 Cindy Franssen (PPE)

Subject: Prices of train tickets

Despite the legislation on rail passengers' rights, travellers are still experiencing difficulties in reserving tickets for train journeys within the EU. There is very little price transparency and no clear information about the cheapest fares. In some cases, first-class travel is even cheaper than second-class. Moreover, it is impossible to book a trip a few months in advance. For these reasons, travellers often feel that it will be simpler just to travel by air instead.

Is the Commission aware of this?

Will the situation of rail passengers improve substantially as a result of the recent revision of Regulation (EC) No 1371/2007 on rail passengers' rights and obligations?

What additional steps will the Commission take to further improve rail passengers' rights with regard to transparency and reservation systems?