

**Question for written answer E-002285/2020
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Clare Daly (GUE/NGL)

Subject: The shared economy and tourist guiding

In Ireland, as in most European countries, the tourist guide qualification is subject to obligations and gives the holder the right to exercise the profession of tourist guide for reasons of public interest and to protect cultural and natural heritage. Tourist guides have no legal protection.

Four CJEU decisions on guiding services in the EU defend the need for regulation of a service that is in the public interest as it helps to protect the cultural heritage of a Member State.

The collaborative economy must be regulated by the EU, in all Member States, in order to ensure a level playing field, equal terms and conditions, and fair competition in the tourism market between regulated tourist guides and illegally operating tour organisers.

Does the Commission intend to introduce a pan-European regulation guaranteeing equal treatment and rights for tourist guides and imposing obligations on tour operators to ensure proportionality in the collaborative tourism sector?