

Question for written answer E-002610/2020
to the Commission
Rule 138
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Subject: Holding the European Summit on Tourism in the Balearic Islands

Last Tuesday, the Commissioner for the Internal Market, Thierry Breton, announced when responding to a question his idea of holding a European Summit on Tourism this autumn.

For many EU citizens, the Balearic Islands are a tourism destination par excellence. Thousands of Europeans have a second home in the islands and the international recognition of the Balearics for quality tourism is what makes Spain and the whole of Europe a top level destination for tourists from the whole world.

The Balearics depend heavily on tourism. It is calculated that the coronavirus crisis will cost the islands losses of EUR 6.067 billion, with GDP falling by over 41 % and the loss of more than 170 000 jobs.

While the tourist season this summer is unlikely to make up for these losses, holding the European Summit on Tourism in the Balearic Islands would act as a stimulus for the industry, and provide grounds for hope for a population that, given the situation described above, will suffer even more than others the damaging consequences of the coronavirus.

Therefore:

Would the Commission consider holding the European Summit on Tourism in the Balearic Islands?