Question for written answer E-003059/2020 to the Commission Rule 138 Laura Ferrara (NI)

Subject: No to the introduction of 'unfair' European tourist corridors

The ongoing COVID-19 emergency has seriously and deeply damaged the European tourism sector.

However, the crisis in the sector could even be exacerbated by the selfish attitude of some Member States which would like to set up special 'tourist corridors', through bilateral or multilateral agreements, to enable their citizens to reach cities and resorts in the Member States participating in such agreements.

This solution, which would appear to be endorsed by several passages of the Commission Communication C(2020)3250, would constitute a form of unfair competition against countries such as Italy and its tourism sector, which would be further penalised by this modus operandi.

In view of the above, can the Commission say:

how it intends to halt the introduction of any form of 'tourist corridor' which could penalise other Member States and fair competition in the single market;

whether it intends to coordinate the opening up of internal and external borders, taking a comprehensive and gradual approach, to enable the flow of travellers;

whether it intends to monitor national 'deconfinement' measures and, where possible, avoid the risk of double quarantines for future travel within the EU?