

**Question for written answer E-003163/2020
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Alessandra Moretti (S&D), Giuseppe Ferrandino (S&D), Franco Roberti (S&D), Pietro Bartolo (S&D), Massimiliano Smeriglio (S&D), Caterina Chinnici (S&D), Paolo De Castro (S&D), Brando Benifei (S&D), Simona Bonafè (S&D), Elisabetta Gualmini (S&D), Patrizia Toia (S&D), Irene Tinagli (S&D), Pina Picierno (S&D), Giuliano Pisapia (S&D)

Subject: Reviving the tourist industry

Europe has always been one of the world's most popular tourist destinations: the tourist industry accounts for between 10 and 11% of EU GDP and 12% of EU employment, or some 27 million jobs in tourism and related sectors.

The industry is made up of almost 3 million firms, 90% of which are SMEs, some of them very small.

In the light of the crisis triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic and the guidelines and strategy recently published by the Commission, the need for decisive action at EU level to support the industry is emerging ever more clearly, not least in order to ensure that Member States do not end up vying ever more brazenly with one another to attract tourists over the next few months.

In the light of the above, can the Commission answer the following questions:

1. Does it agree that the tourist industry should receive the largest share of the funding made available under the instruments designed to relaunch the economy, in particular the Recovery Plan?
2. In the light of the guidelines which have just been published and which provide for the identification of areas with a similar epidemiological status, what measures will it take to ensure that certain countries do not suffer discrimination and are denied the opportunity to welcome tourists because Member States have concluded bilateral agreements between themselves?