Question for written answer E-006610/2020 to the Commission
Rule 138

Rosa Estaràs Ferragut (PPE)

Subject: Antigen tests

On 19 June 2020, Parliament adopted a motion for a resolution on transport and tourism in 2020 and beyond that contained measures to revive these sectors, in the context of the COVID-19 crisis, by guaranteeing full compliance with the appropriate safety and protection measures.

Testing is the best way to ensure safety, for which reason Member States have chosen to make travelling conditional upon taking a PCR test.

This entails an additional expense that many members of the public and families in the EU are unable to pay owing to the high price charged. This could discourage people from travelling.

On the other hand, antigen tests cost less than PCR tests and have a high rate of reliability.

To meet the aim of the aforementioned resolution, namely to revive tourism, we must make it easier for people to travel and allow antigen tests to be accepted as valid for entry to countries.

With all this in mind, could the Commission say whether there is any impediment to antigen tests being used as a means of guaranteeing appropriate safety and protection measures for travellers?