Question for written answer E-006821/2020 to the Commission Rule 138 Izaskun Bilbao Barandica (Renew)

Subject: Commission's legal doctrine on the collaborative economy in the tourism sector

The ruling by the Court of Justice of the European Union on 22 September 2020, which invokes protection of the general interest to uphold a French rule that restricts the letting of holiday flats, has led Commissioner Thierry Breton to propose limits on the provision of certain services through the 'collaborative economy'. This position differs from that laid down by the Directorate-General for the Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW), which, in 2019 and 2020, rejected complaints from tour guide associations on a number of occasions and thus seemed to decide against continuing with any infringement proceedings to allow all Member States to grant licences and regulate the conditions for exercising the profession in the same conditions for the same type of activity.

What is the Commission's current position with regard to that of Commissioner Breton or the doctrine hitherto set out by DG GROW?

How is the Commission going to safeguard the CJEU decision to impose measures based on the overriding reason relating to the national interest?

Is the principle of proportionality being respected if legal restrictions are not applied in cases such as that of tourist guides in the 'collaborative economy'?