

**Question for written answer E-002170/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Legislation for *hostels* in Portugal

Ministerial Implementing Order No 262/2020, published in *Diário da República* No 217/2020, lays down new rules for local accommodation establishments, such as lodgings, *hostels*, local accommodation and apartments, with minimum operating conditions for these establishments.

The order tightens the rules for cash-strapped *hostels* or those located in historical areas (thus making it impossible to carry out the necessary renovations required under these new rules), and will cause many of them to close. This situation is made worse by the pandemic.

In the light of this:

1. Is the Commission aware of this new legislation? If so, does it consider that there is competitive discrimination affecting private *hostels* in particular as opposed to public *hostels*, the so-called Portuguese youth hostels?
2. Does it consider this legislation to be fair and proportionate vis-à-vis the freedom of establishment and the freedom to provide services?

Supporter¹

¹ This question is supported by a Member other than the authors: Paulo Rangel (PPE)