

**Question for written answer E-005720/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Mihai Tudose (S&D)

Subject: The European strategy for tourism

Report No 27/2021 of the European Court of Auditors recommends that the European Commission bring in an EU strategy for tourism.

The tourism sector is essential to the European economy and, before the pandemic, was responsible for 10% of EU GDP and over 11% of jobs for EU citizens. The impact of the pandemic on this sector has been devastating and necessitates proportional, direct support.

It is time to move from pandemic shock mitigation measures to a plan for relaunching European tourism. It is an essential role of the Commission to support the efforts of Member States. In this regard, I welcome the beginning of the process of defining the European 2030 Agenda for tourism.

1. At what stage is the creation of this agenda, and when does the Commission expect it will be launched, so that it can respond to the urgent needs of the tourism sector?
2. What measures does the Commission envisage for addressing the deficiencies revealed in the Court of Auditors' report concerning access to EU funding via the European Regional Development Fund? The criteria, procedures and selection of projects are within the remit of management authorities, in accordance with Article 72–74 of Regulation (EU) 2021/1060, but the European Commission has some influence over technical assistance and operational support.