

WRITTEN QUESTION P-2626/10
by Hannes Swoboda (S&D)
to the Commission

Subject: Public consultation on the review of the Package Travel Directive

The Commission's consultations home page¹ reads 'give us your opinion on EU policies and influence their direction'.

The Commission recently conducted a consultation on the 'Review of the Package Travel Directive' which, in terms of the possibility of taking part in consultations, raises a series of questions:

Could the Commission inform me of why the questions in the consultation were only available in English? This made it more difficult for many interested parties to take part in the consultation (for example, because of the specific technical terms) or completely impossible for those without a knowledge of English.

The questions asked as part of the consultation could only be answered online. Although the questionnaire was lengthy, the online system switched back if it took longer than an hour to complete the questionnaire and the participant in the consultation was forced to fill in the questionnaire from scratch again. Could the Commission inform me of why the questionnaire had to be filled in online and it was not possible to send replies in writing by email?

Some questions in connection with the consultation on the Package Travel Directive were formulated imprecisely and others, such as that of the transparent and comprehensive communication of price changes to consumers, were not even dealt with by the Commission. On certain key issues, it was therefore not possible for interested parties to present their position appropriately to the complexity of the problems. How does the Commission form its opinion in these areas?

¹ http://ec.europa.eu/yourvoice/index_en.htm