

**Question for written answer P-003090/2019  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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**Subject:** Domino effect of the collapse of Thomas Cook on healthy tourism sector businesses

Owing to the collapse of Thomas Cook, hundreds of companies face enormous debts and liquidity issues despite them being financially sound. For example, Spanish hotels have direct claims from Thomas Cook of around EUR 250 million and Greek hotels of around EUR 190 million.

The governments of the Member States concerned are taking measures to avoid the collapse of healthy businesses, but there is no coordination or support at European level. For example, the German subsidiary Condor, one of the few remaining airlines that sells seats to tour operators, unlike low-cost carriers, has obtained a guarantee for a bridging loan from the German Federal Government and the provincial government of Hessen.

Given the collapse of Thomas Cook, the survival of Condor and other profitable businesses will help preserve competition in the sector to the benefit of consumers and employees.

Will the Commission:

1. Approve the bridging loan to allow Condor to continue its operations and secure thousands of jobs?
2. Look at creating a tourism destination crisis management mechanism as a tool to avert or to minimise the impact on the economy of local communities, jobs and consumers' rights of crises in the tourism sector, including the bankruptcy of a tour operator or airline?