Priority question for written answer P-002738/2023 to the Commission

Rule 138

Cláudia Monteiro de Aguiar (PPE), István Ujhelyi (S&D)

Subject: Revision of the Package Travel Directive

A revised proposal on the Package Travel Directive¹ (PTD) is expected in the fourth quarter of 2023 in view of the challenges faced by travellers during the COVID-19 pandemic and following the bankruptcy of Thomas Cook. Several stakeholders have voiced their concerns regarding the Commission's plans to limit prepayments to 20 % of the overall package price, with some exceptions, stressing the disadvantages of such a policy measure for both package organisers and consumers. Furthermore, the Commission also plans to cover corporate travel under this proposal and some operators have pointed out that all players, from tour operators to airlines and flight search engines, need to play by the same rules of accountability, in particular regarding reimbursement.

- 1. What is the Commission's view on the concerns raised with regard to the introduction of a limit on prepayments in the PTD and are similar measures envisaged for stand-alone flights?
- 2. Many of the reimbursement issues faced by travellers during the pandemic were related to airlines' decision to put passengers' refunds on hold. What are the Commission's Directorates-General for Justice and Consumers and for Mobility and Transport doing to ensure coordinated action on these matters?
- 3. What other policy measures is the Commission planning to introduce in the upcoming PTD revision and what challenges will they aim to address?

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Directive (EU) 2015/2302 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2015 on package travel and linked travel arrangements, amending Regulation (EC) No 2006/2004 and Directive 2011/83/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council and repealing Council Directive 90/314/EEC (OJ L 326, 11.12.2015, p. 1).