Question for written answer E-004981/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
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Subject: Compliance of Booking Holdings with the Digital Markets Act

The Digital Markets Act (DMA) was designed to ensure fair competition in the digital markets. Booking Holdings was designated as the only gatekeeper in the online travel agency (OTA) sector on 13 May 2024. However, the company continues to consolidate its dominant position, systematically offering the best prices through privileged partnerships with hotels and supported by its partnership with ChatGPT. As a result, the market remains highly concentrated around its services.

As Booking is the only European gatekeeper, this case is a test of the DMA's enforcement credibility. The Commission must act decisively, sending a clear message that EU rules apply equally to all gatekeepers, not only to US firms.

1. How does the Commission assess the current level of contestability in the OTA sector since Booking's designation and does it consider that the DMA has had a pro-competitive effect on this market? If not, what actions does it intend to take?

2. Is the Commission actively monitoring practices that produce equally restrictive effects, even if they are not explicitly listed under DMA obligations?

3. How will the Commission ensure that the DMA remains a credible instrument in sectors where entrenched market power and new AI solutions risk further undermining the DMA's objectives?

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