

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001808/26
to the Commission
Cynthia Ní Mhurchú (Renew)
(4 May 2026)**

Subject: Investigating Live Nation/Ticketmaster's control of the EU's live-event ticketing market

Will the Commission launch or consider an investigation into Live Nation/Ticketmaster's alleged monopoly and anti-competitive practices in the EU's live-event ticketing market, in the light of concerns regarding high market concentration, vertical integration across ticketing, venue ownership and artist management, and exclusive dealing arrangements, and what specific steps is the Commission taking to address these issues and protect consumers, particularly regarding practices such as dynamic pricing, hidden fees, restricted ticket transferability and reduced consumer choice in live-event ticketing across the EU?

Submitted: 4.5.2026

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Ribera on behalf of the European Commission
(26 June 2026)**

There is no ongoing investigation into the alleged behaviour of Live Nation/Ticketmaster.

The Commission is closely monitoring the live-event ticketing sector and remains committed to ensuring the full respect for EU competition law. Opening an investigation requires reasonable indications of a likely infringement of EU competition rules.

If a transaction occurs in the sector, it may well have to be notified to the Commission or Member States to the extent that this transaction amounts to a concentration, within the meaning of EU or national merger control rules and meets the thresholds at EU or national level.

Such notification would enable the Commission or the competent national competition authority to assess the transaction's potential impact on competition in relevant markets.

Consumers are protected against unfair commercial practices, including in relation to the marketing of event tickets, under Directive 2005/29/EC ⁽¹⁾.

This directive is transposed into national legislation and Member States' authorities and courts are responsible for enforcement in individual cases.

Subject to the outcome of the ongoing impact assessment of the Digital Fairness Act ⁽²⁾, the Commission may propose more specific rules regarding price marketing, such as a prohibition of misleading 'starting from' price claims and of hidden fees ('drip pricing'). The Commission may also propose increased transparency when consumers must wait in a virtual queue for their chance to buy.

⁽¹⁾ <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2005/29/oj>.

⁽²⁾ For more information: https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/14622-Digital-Fairness-Act_en.