Question for written answer E-002426/2019 to the Commission Rule 138 Maria Da Graça Carvalho (PPE)

Subject: Restrictions on freedom of movement in Portugal

Free movement of persons and goods within the internal market is one of the greatest achievements of the European project and is enshrined in the Treaties.

Portugal has introduced an electronic toll system (formerly known as SCUTs) on some Portuguese motorways without making available to European consumers suitable means and clear information on how the service works and is paid.

A number of groups of people – including vulnerable consumers, tourists who do not understand Portuguese and many Portuguese immigrants – enter Portuguese territory seasonally and have to deal with unfair and discriminatory fines and barriers to free movement in Europe.

The tolls' post-pay methods are insufficient and their payment deadlines are unreasonable. Once the deadline has been missed, the user incurs additional costs which are disproportionate to the value of the toll.

As the Guardian of the Treaties, what action is the Commission considering taking to end this discrimination?

Does the Commission not consider these systems to be a block to the full realisation of free movement in the internal market?

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