Question for written answer E-003603/2014 to the Commission Rule 117 Marta Andreasen (ECR)

Subject: Mandatory fuel charges for rental vehicles

Will the Commission make a statement regarding its position on mandatory fuel charging, which is the practice whereby car rental companies unexpectedly make an additional charge to customers for a full tank of fuel upon collection of the rental vehicle, despite these charges not being explained at the time the booking is made?

Does the Commission agree that this practice is unethical and unfair for consumers, who are forced to pay a mandatory charge for a product they do not need or want and which was not explained to them at the time of booking? Will the Commission express an opinion on whether this practice is in conflict with the Unfair Commercial Practices Directive (2005/29/EC)?

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