Question for written answer E-003502/2020 to the Commission Rule 138 Roberta Metsola (PPE)

Subject: Quality mobile internet speeds in the European Union

Following discussions with Commissioner Breton, streaming service providers such as Netflix took steps to reduce streaming speeds, and therefore service quality, so as to prevent network congestion. It has been reported that in Spain, mobile operators have asked subscribers to reduce their data consumption over the lockdown. In Greece, authorities have asked users to use their data wisely.

While the reliability of land-based internet connection speeds has improved steadily over the years, the same cannot be said for mobile internet connections. As Europe emerges from lockdown, many companies will be taking forward policies on increased remote working. Given that there have been reports of a possible second wave of COVID-19, the possibility remains that further lockdown periods might be imposed.

- 1. How is the Commission working with the private sector to improve infrastructure in the EU so as to support quality internet speeds consistently, specifically for mobile connections?
- 2. Has it carried out or is it currently undertaking any impact assessments on how mobile internet connections will be tested as part of its expected legislative proposal on artificial intelligence in 2021?