

**Note on own initiative report on Tourism – TRAN committee  
November 2025**

MEP Daniel Attard (S&D, Malta) has issued his own draft report on “***Enhancing connectivity, preserving cultural heritage, and driving local excellence in European tourism: destination management and regional tourism growth***” ([2025/2120INI](#)). This report will be the European Parliament’s contribution to the **EU Sustainable Tourism Strategy**, announced by the European Commission to be published in April 2026. The pillars of the report are the following:

- Connectivity
- Empowering Europe’s destinations (with references to unbalanced tourism, short-term rentals, Destination Management Organisations)
- Skills and cultural heritage

Please see below HOTREC’s analysis of the report, focusing on the positive and the negative points identified within the text.

**Positive aspects**

Positively for HOTREC, the document:

- Urges the Commission to conduct a **study over tourism’s reliance on dominant players**, assessing risks to connectivity, pricing, service continuity and resilience, and putting forward measures to curb market concentration and promote fair competition through legal, regulatory and financial tools where needed.
- Calls for a **coordinated EU-wide agenda to upskill the tourism workforce**, in line with the Pact for Skills.
- Welcomes the Regulation on **short-term accommodation rentals** as a useful step toward better destination management. While STRs can enhance local engagement and authenticity, they also raise concerns about housing affordability, neighbourhood cohesion, and governance. As such, the draft report **calls on the Commission to propose legislation** defining clear host categories and allowing Member States to apply proportionate measures, such as visitor caps, authorisation systems, offsetting and zoning, in areas facing housing pressures.
- Stresses the growing need for **flexible workplace** with strong **digital and green skills** to deliver innovative solutions that support both economic growth and environmental protection.
- Calls for stronger **crisis-preparedness tools**, including early-warning systems, contingency plans and targeted support, to improve tourism resilience and safety.
- Affirms that **good connectivity** is essential to uphold the freedom of movement guaranteed by the Treaties.
- Calls for the creation of a **dedicated European fund**.

**Concerning aspects**

In parallel, some of the provisions in the draft report are not necessarily aligned with HOTREC’s position, namely:

- Calls for support in developing **comprehensive metrics** that cover areas such as job creation, community well-being, and carbon emissions, with the aim of ensuring transparent policymaking and guiding responsible investment.
- Uses negative **language** when referring to the sector, expressing disappointment on low pay, informal employment, seasonality, limited training, gender unbalance.
- **Supports phasing out single-use plastics.**
- Recognises the current **limitations of the EU Ecolabel** and stresses the need for a unified approach to sustainability labelling in European tourism. It advocates for **a single, transparent standard. The objective is to enhance** consumer trust and increase global visibility of sustainability efforts.

#### **Next steps**

- HOTREC to propose amendments
- Q1 2026: Report to be voted at TRAN committee of the European Parliament

#### **More information**

[Full version of the draft report](#)