Business Travel Opinion

BT4Europe

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In Focus - Multimodal Digital Mobility Services

- The European Commission is currently drafting legislation on <u>MDMS</u>, or in business travel speak: online booking engines.
- EC intends to bring more transparency and more choice to (business) travelers, when they book their travel online, through TMCs, OBEs or directly at suppliers.¹⁾
- It is highly relevant for business travel, because open access to fare information and ticketing services, including ,full content' are at stake here.
- Draft legislation is expected to be published by DG Move in Q4 2023.

We urge for an ambitious approach

- Booking tickets online is commonplace for business travelers.
- Business travelers demand their travel options to be shown, sold, ticketed and serviced in one place.
 That should include air, rail and other options.
- To drive sustainable business travel we ask rail options to be shown alongside air options.
- OBEs and others need to be enabled not only the possibility to compare air and rail, but also to mix them in a single trip

At stake

- 1. Will supplier independent online booking engines be capable to show content from all providers of travel serices e.g. airlines and rail companies?
- 2. Will content be shown for information purpuses only, or will ticketing and servicing also be provided in one place?
- 3. Will supplier provided online booking engines (e.g. by airlines or rail companies) be required to show content from their competitors?
- 4. Will ,full content' be legally required or will it be left to market agreements like today?
- 5. Will market leading airlines and market leading rail companies be under identical rules?
- 6. Will newcomers (suppliers and online booking engines) be allowed low market entry hurdles?



1) TMC = Travel Management Company, OBE = Online Booking Engine, Supplier = a provider of travel services like an airline or a rail company.

Business Travel Opinion' is not an official information by any of the EU institutions. For the benefit of its members and partners BT4Europe reports on important legislative dossiers. This is our opinion, no more no less. We are the European Network of Business Travel Associations, in short BT4Europe. You can find us at www.bt4europe.com or write to us via mail@bt4europe.com.

Business Travel in Europe

- 2 million institutions send business travelers on the road (companies, public administration, NGO)
- 34 million business travelers
- 34 million business travele
 300 million business trips
- €120 billion spent
- Estimates for 2022