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### **Package Travel Vote (IMCO)**

Commenting on today's Package Travel Directive vote in the Parliament's IMCO committee, Monique Goyens, Director General of the European Consumer Organisation said:

"Package holidays remain a cornerstone of many consumers' travel plans. As purchasing moves increasingly online, package travellers need robust EU regulatory protection. Regrettably, today's vote waters down the key measures proposed by the Commission and will result in greater legal confusion as to how different travel combinations are protected.

"Consumer-friendly measures such as a cap on increases to an agreed price have been removed by the committee. For example, in Germany increases cannot now be greater than 5%. This report removes such a protection.

"The draft law as penned by the Commission said that if a package organiser benefits from a price reduction, this reduction has to be passed on to the consumer. But the parliament has introduced an administration fee the consumer must pay in order to feel that reduction.

"As this important sector is regulated, it feels like 1 step forwards, 2 steps back. MEPs have missed the perfect chance to ensure consumers benefit from clear, lasting rights."

ENDS