Question for written answer E-005810/2014 to the Commission Rule 130 José Blanco López (S&D)

Subject: State aid for setting up airline routes

A recent report by the Spanish National Committee on Markets and Competition on the airport sector in Spain concludes that the granting of direct aid for setting up airline routes is 'a distortion of airport activity, as it acts as a disincentive for operators to increase their efficiency'. The same report also questions whether granting this type of aid is in line with Community competition law.

In light of the above:

Does the Commission see the granting of direct aid for setting up airline routes as contradictory to EU competition policy?

In the specific case of the Autonomous Community of Galicia, does the Commission know whether any such aid has been granted for setting up airline routes at any of the region's three airports?

If so, has the Commission taken any steps to correct the situation?

1031781.EN PE 535.706