

**Question for written answer E-007634/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Airports Decree

A few days ago, the Italian Minister of Transport announced an 'Airports Decree' which is intended to deregulate slots at the airport of Milan Linate.

This is a measure that creates preferential terms for and promotes the development of one airport only: this will inevitably have an impact on other airports in the same region (Milan Malpensa and Orio al Serio) and in other regions and thus on local businesses.

Furthermore, a measure limited to a single airport, which does not form part of a broader programme, also risks undermining public and private investment - whether planned or already implemented - especially investment relating to infrastructure and the interoperability of modes of transport.

Finally, any action intended to distort competition should be avoided, especially in this time of economic crisis.

In view of all the above, will the Commission say:

1. In general terms, what EU limits and constraints is a government deregulation measure, such as the one described above, required to comply with?
2. How does it view a government measure, such as that described above, from the point of view of the principles of free competition and the need to avoid market distortions and adverse effects on businesses?