Question for written answer E-006579/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Miguel Viegas (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Single European Sky

The Single European Sky (SES) initiative was launched in 1999, with a view to improving the performance of air traffic management (ATM) and of air navigation services (ANS) by closer integration of European airspace. According to the forecasts of the European Commission, Single European Sky (provided that it is concluded by around 2030) will be able to triple airspace capacity, halve the costs associated with air traffic management and improve safety by up to a factor of ten.

The new package will result in the separation of the three main functions of regulation, supervision and air navigation, which are today covered by the DGAC. It also aims to outsource certain 'support functions' such as meteorology, currently performed by national authorities. Various bodies for civil aviation have publically expressed concerns with regard to policies that focus on cost reduction which may have consequences for the quality of air traffic control.

I ask the Commission for a progress report on the Single European Sky project and ask what guarantees it is able to give those who fear deregulation of the sector and all the risks associated with a function which has always been carried out by Member States.

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