Question for written answer E-008520/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Morten Messerschmidt (ECR)

Subject: Ryanair's fuel policy and air safety

The Danish newspaper Berlingske Tidende ran a front page story on 20 May 2015 on the airline Ryanair's practice of using an internal 'fuel league' to monitor its fuel consumption. This is a kind of ranked list on the company's intranet, which praises pilots who are good at saving fuel, while exposing those who are poor. According to former Ryanair pilots the system puts psychological pressure on pilots, for example to avoid taking more fuel with them on flights than is stated in the flight plan which, according to experts, poses a safety risk. Although Ryanair abides by all the rules, many experts believe that this way of operating compromises air safety, not least in situations in which the flight is redirected.

How significant does the Commission believe this if for air safety?

Does this practice comply with current air-safety rules?

What does the Commission intend to do to counteract this way of operating?