

**Question for written answer E-000258/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Franck Proust (PPE)

Subject: Technical crew member on board SAMU helicopters

A number of emergency medical service professionals have contacted me to express their misgivings about the application of Regulation (EU) No 965/2012. The focus of their concern was emergency medical assistance (SAMU) provided by helicopter in France. The French-Directorate-General for Civil Aviation has made it mandatory, as of 1 January 2016, for every SAMU helicopter to have a technical crew member on board in addition to the regular crew members (pilot, doctor and nurse). Those who contacted me question whether the benefits of having this extra person on board are enough to offset the flight safety implications (extra weight) and the additional costs.

1. Can the Commission provide details of the rules which came into force on 1 January 2016?
2. Can the Commission explain once again the thinking behind this new legislation?
3. Has the Commission taken the additional costs to patients and healthcare services and the implications for flight safety (extra weight) into consideration?