

**Question for written answer E-000626/2016
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Marie-Christine Arnautu (ENF)

Subject: Withdrawal of the Paris-Strasbourg air service

After the withdrawal of the Paris-Roissy to Strasbourg route, in April it will be the turn of the Paris-Orly to Strasbourg route to go, as Air France has decided withdraw it.

It is unthinkable for the capital of Europe, seat of the Council of Europe, the European Court of Human Rights and, most notably, the European Parliament to be deprived of the only air service linking it to the principal agglomeration of the European Union at the expense of Basel airport in Switzerland or Stuttgart airport in Germany. Some might see in this a desire to further weaken Strasbourg's position and for it to be replaced completely by Brussels.

Does the Commission intend to take action to:

1. Restore Strasbourg to its rightful position, that of capital of the Union, and to that end for it have an adequate air service?
2. Tackle the distortion of competition affecting the Member States' historical airlines and forcing them to cut back their services?