

**Question for written answer E-000914/2016/rev.1
to the Commission**

Rule 130

José Inácio Faria (ALDE)

Subject: Air and road safety: planting trees along the second ring road - Lisbon

Lisbon City Council intends to upgrade the second ring expressway ('Segunda Circular') by April 2017. This road serves as a transit link between the towns of Cascais/Sintra and the motorway to the North. As part of the project, 8 000 trees are to be planted along a road that passes within a few metres of Lisbon International Airport. Doubts have been raised over the project, in particular as regards the failure to have the necessary reports drawn up in advance. The Office for the Prevention and Investigation of Air Accidents, a government body, has drawn up a report in which it warns that more trees could lead to an increase in the number of birds, posing a threat to the safety of aircraft. Leaves and berries falling from the trees could also lead to more road accidents. Regarding Regulation 216/2008:

Is the Commission aware of this project? What view does it take of the possible implications for air and road safety?

Can it verify that the competent authorities gathered all the necessary technical information to demonstrate the project's safety?

Will it request information from the local authority with a view to obtaining all possible guarantees that the interests and safety of air transport and road users were duly safeguarded?