

**Question for written answer E-002980/2016
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Daniela Aiuto (EFDD) and Rosa D'Amato (EFDD)

Subject: Problems relating to the fuel surcharge

Airlines charge a fuel surcharge, which is payable directly by consumers as part of air fares.

Airlines justify the fuel surcharge as protecting them against rises in the price of oil.

However, it has been observed that, when the price of oil falls, there is no corresponding abolition of the fuel surcharge.

1. Is the Commission aware of any rules governing the fuel surcharge?
2. Does the Commission consider that the market is being distorted and that it is therefore necessary to act to protect consumers?
3. Does the Commission consider that this revenue encourages airlines to adopt longer routes in order to avoid Member States whose route charges are higher, leading to greater fuel consumption and therefore substantial additional emissions of carbon dioxide, contrary to the aims of the SESAR project?