

**Question for written answer E-004269/2016  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Franck Proust (PPE)**

Subject: Transmission of flight data by satellite

On 19 May 2016, Egypt Air flight MS804 crashed in the Mediterranean Sea, killing 66 people. Investigations into the causes of the crash and on the wreckage of the aircraft have unfortunately shown once again how complex it is to recover a plane's black boxes, which contain vital information on its flights. However, there is an alternative way of recovering all flight data in the event of an accident: data transmission by satellite.

In the debate on the development of the European space market and its practical applications, this raises two questions:

1. Is the Commission aware of the alternative solution of transmitting flight data by satellite?
2. If so, can it provide relevant figures?
3. Finally, does the Commission propose to promote the development of a standard or of a set of relevant geographical rules to permit the adoption of such a system?