

**Question for written answer E-009021/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Mireille D'Ornano (ENF)

Subject: Prevention of air accidents

Each year, dozens of air accidents take place all over the world leading to thousands of deaths. There are multiple reasons for these tragedies. Human error, which could be related to fatigue, a mechanical problem, adverse weather conditions, but also inappropriate passenger behaviour, or even an attack – these are just some of the many different causes of such accidents.

As regards the crash of Germanwings Flight 9525 in the French Alps on 24 March 2015, a psychologically fragile pilot killed all his passengers by flying his plane into the ground. However, measures taken after the attacks of 11 September 2001 with a view to enabling the cockpit to be locked from the inside had a questionable effect in the context of this catastrophe.

1. Over and beyond the need for maximum aircraft safety, is the Commission paying any special attention to the crucial role played by pilots and co-pilots in avoiding these disasters?
2. How does it reconcile its action in this regard with the measures taken within the framework of the the International Civil Aviation Organisation? Does the Commission take into account the security of ground facilities and the staff working there?