

**Question for written answer E-000066/2017
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Marie-Christine Arnautu (ENF)

Subject: Link between air safety and the lack of job security for some pilots

The London School of Economics and Eurocontrol published a joint study at the end of 2016 entitled "European pilots' perceptions of safety culture in European Aviation". This survey of 7 239 commercial pilots highlighted their concerns over understaffing and the risks this could entail for flight safety. The study also revealed that over half of them (58 %) had flown while tired and that pilots employed by low-cost companies or cargo airlines complain even more of fatigue. It is worth recalling here that Ghent University drew attention to the heightened risk of pilots being employed on short-term contracts and seeing their working conditions worsen, particularly if working for low-cost companies, in a report published in 2015 entitled 'Atypical Employment in Aviation'.

1. Does the Commission believe that as the aforementioned studies would seem to suggest, lack of job security may influence some pilots' decision-making, affecting flight safety as a consequence?
2. Does it plan to alter EU regulations, taking the observations and recommendations made in these studies into account?
3. Will it take steps to prevent atypical jobs and short-term contracts from becoming commonplace in the aviation sector?