

**Question for written answer E-001129/2017
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Barbara Kappel (ENF)

Subject: EU Competition Policy: Lufthansa cooperation with Etihad, takeover of Brussels Airlines

In February 2017, Lufthansa and Etihad confirmed their intention to cooperate more closely in the future. Lufthansa already rents 38 jets from Etihad partner Air Berlin and cooperates with Etihad on several routes. In 2009, the Commission approved Lufthansa's takeover of Austrian Airlines and Brussels Airlines, but raised some pressing concerns about certain monopolised flight routes (IP/09/129).

1. What is the Commission's view of the new deal between Lufthansa and Etihad? Could it affect Lufthansa's market positions and could it be eligible for further scrutiny by the EU Competition Authority?
2. How does the Commission assess the complete takeover of Brussels Airlines, which was agreed in December 2016?