**Question for written answer E-005831/2017**

**to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Joëlle Mélin (ENF) and Marie-Christine Arnautu (ENF)**

Subject: Implementation of the civil aviation strategy to combat the right to strike

On 8 June 2017 the Commission presented its civil aviation strategy in the form of a press communiqué. The official aim of the measures set out is to ‘safeguard competition and connectivity in aviation’ and ‘enhance the efficiency and connectivity of European skies’. The four-part package aims to give a more tangible shape to the Aviation Strategy for Europe, which was adopted in 2015, and is intended to ensure that European civil aviation maintains its leading position internationally and to eliminate obstacles to growth in airspace. To this end, the Commission considers that ‘industrial action in the form of strikes poses the most complex challenges’, as strikes result in ‘many flight cancellations and delays, leaving passengers stranded at airports’. The Commission therefore calls on the Member States to protect peak air traffic periods of the day and of the year by avoiding strikes at these times.

We are keen to know how the Commission would like the Member States to avoid strikes at these times.

In addition, why is the Commission tackling the problem of strikes when it has no legislative competence in this area?