

**Question for written answer E-000080/2018
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Merja Kyllönen (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Requirement in Article 3 of Regulation (EU) No 598/2014 on airport noise to establish competent and independent authorities responsible for regulating noise from airports

The EU passed a new airport noise regulation in 2014 (Regulation (EU) No 598/2014). According to Article 3 of this regulation, Member States must establish competent authorities to regulate noise from airports, and these authorities must have functional independence. However, some Member States are appointing their aviation authorities as the competent authority, but as these authorities are funded from flight charges they cannot be considered independent, as their incentive is to approve more flights, including more night flights.

When will the Commission publish an update on implementation by the Member States of the requirement in Article 3 of Regulation (EU) No 598/2014 to establish competent authorities responsible for the process to be followed when adopting operating restrictions?

In particular, how many Member States have notified the Commission of the designated competent authority, and what criteria is the Commission using to determine whether the competent authorities selected are independent, as required by Article 3(2)?