

**Question for written answer P-000209/2018
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Jacqueline Foster (ECR)

Subject: Potential interference in aviation and maritime communications systems

The introduction of new mobile broadband systems in frequency band 1427-1518 MHz has the potential to cause interference with Inmarsat mobile-satellite systems operating in the adjacent frequency band. This band is used by satellite systems supporting critical maritime, aeronautical and safety-related operations. Disruption of those services due to interference from mobile broadband systems would cause major harm to these operations, and ultimately to passengers.

Mitigating the risk requires that measures to protect maritime and aeronautical communications systems be defined and put in place by national regulators before the new systems are deployed. This must be done in an effective, consistent and harmonised way across Europe.

This issue transcends many different areas of the EU and affects a variety of satellite users. This pattern is mirrored at Member State level, leading to the risk that though the need to adopt appropriate mitigations may be acknowledged, it is not properly acted upon at European level.

1. Does the Commission recognise the existence of this problem? If so, what concrete action is being taken to mitigate the risk?
2. Will DG CNECT undertake to convene the appropriate experts and the departments concerned, in order to devise proposals for action, involving DG MOVE, MARE, SESAR JU, EASA, EMSA and Eurocontrol?