

WRITTEN QUESTION E-5103/06
by Patrick Gaubert (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: New European regulation on hand luggage in all EU airports

On 6 November 2006, the new European regulation on hand luggage in all EU airports came into force. This regulation, which is applicable to all passengers travelling from or having connecting flights from EU airports, stipulates that it is now only permissible to transport liquids or gels in bottles with a volume of no more than 100ml. These bottles must be carried in a transparent bag. Each passenger may only carry one transparent plastic bag, the volume of which may not exceed 1 litre. This regulation applies to water and other drinks but also concerns gels, pastes, lotions and the contents of aerosols.

These very strict measures, intended to fight against terrorism, were taken without the European Parliament really being involved.

Could the Commission provide information concerning the adoption of these measures? On what basis were they taken? Was an expert evaluation carried out? If so, can we access it?

Could the Commission also enlighten us about the confidential nature of this regulation?