

**Question for written answer E-006219/2011
to the Commission**

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Subject: Common Strategic Framework and aeronautics

European research in aeronautics has been structured and gradually brought into line with the objectives of the Advisory Council for Aeronautical Research in Europe (ACARE), making it possible to fine-tune national research programmes and private-sector investments in research and technology. The framework programmes managed at EU level have ensured that there is no duplication of expenditure, while specific support for aeronautics through dedicated funds has provided the financial stability needed if long-term European objectives are to be met.

Today, the European aeronautics manufacturing industry is coming under pressure as a result of globalisation and the emergence of new competitors and markets. Yet it remains a key strategic sector for research and innovation in our economy, affecting millions of jobs and a supply chain which generates considerable added value.

With reference to the preparation of the next Common Strategic Framework and of the Multiannual Financial Framework, will the Commission continue to meet the specific needs of each sector which has demonstrated its efficiency? In particular, will the Commission maintain a dedicated aeronautics funding programme, thereby guaranteeing the continued application of instruments newly introduced under the current Seventh Framework Programme?