

**Question for written answer E-005947/2012  
to the Commission  
Rule 117  
Ioannis Kasoulides (PPE)**

Subject: Public sector aircraft and airworthiness certification

Can the Commission indicate whether public sector aircraft in the Member States, owned by the police, the fire department or the forest fires department for example, must for safety reasons be subject to airworthiness certification procedures or whether they are entitled to exemption?

What is the opinion of the European Aviation Safety Agency regarding the admissibility of such exemptions?

What should the necessary qualifications be for acquisition of a pilot's licence for such aircraft and what are the qualifications of the Air Unit Commander (in the police, the fire department, the forest fires department, etc.)?

Given that such aircraft are used across borders between Member States, is there a common directive governing air safety issues and, if not, is the Commission planning to draft one?