

**Question for written answer E-007767/2013
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Robert Sturdy (ECR)

Subject: Gliding and Regulation (EC) No 216/2008

Following the implementation of Regulation (EC) No 216/2008 and the consequent amendments to the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) regulations, there were several changes that affected the sport of gliding. Previously, gliding was regulated at a national level. In the United Kingdom, for instance, this was through the British Gliding Association, a non-governmental organisation.

Many of these new rules require extra procedures and documentation that place a large burden on the gliding community, which is predominantly recreational and supported by volunteers. Most of the changes appear to be designed for the airline industry, not for part-time hobbyists. Some examples include changes to the requirements for medical examinations, pilot training and instructor training.

1. Is the Commission planning to review or amend the EASA rules affecting gliding in the future?
2. How will the Commission be monitoring the implementation of the new EASA rules affecting gliding and reviewing them if necessary?
3. Is the Commission undertaking any initiatives to assist national gliding associations to adjust to these new rules? If so, in what way?