

**Question for written answer E-003198/2014
to the Commission**

Rule 117

Nikolaos Salavrakos (EFD)

Subject: Concession of Rhodes airport which is State property

Rhodes airport, which is on the borders of Greece, is the main driver of growth for tourism in the Dodecanese islands, and the other smaller island airports depend on it economically. In an island country such as Greece, where between 80 % and 85 % of tourist traffic goes by air, the role of public airports in the development of tourism and the national economy is obviously crucial.

In view of the above, will the Commission say:

1. Does it know whether the Troika has called for the immediate privatisation of Rhodes airport? If so, does any study exist showing that the airport can be more effectively managed if it is privately run, judged from the point of view of the interests of travellers, the Greek State and the local community?
2. Is it aware that the Greek Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) is able, using its own resources, without any cost to the State budget, to make an investment of the order of EUR 2 billion over a decade with funds raised from charges?