

**Question for written answer E-007563/2016  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Dame Glenis Willmott (S&D)**

Subject: EU funding for the UK aerospace sector

We all recognise the importance of the aerospace industry to the European Union in terms of the financial and other, wider benefits it brings to EU citizens. The conference on aerospace that was held at the European Parliament on 27 April 2016 articulated the many benefits that have emerged through collaborative programmes which have been supported by funding from EU sources such as COSME and Horizon 2020. This conference also highlighted challenges such as the increasing competitive threat posed by emerging nations and their desire to participate in the benefits that aerospace brings. I think we would all acknowledge that, following the United Kingdom's decision to leave the EU in the referendum of 23 June 2016, those challenges are now more difficult and uncertain for the UK aerospace sector.

Can the Commission provide data on the amount of EU funding that the UK aerospace industry has received, including through collaborative work with universities, over the last 10 years?

In the face of increased international competition from the likes of the US and China, how does the Commission intend to ensure that the substantive issues and challenges for the aerospace industry are fully considered in any Brexit negotiations?

How does the Commission intend to capture the views of aerospace companies about collaborative R&T programmes and associated funding?