

**Question for written answer E-005420/2017
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Margrete Auken (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Aviation safety

Paragraph 41 of Parliament's resolution on an Aviation Strategy for Europe, adopted on 16 February 2017, calls on the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) and the Member States to scrutinise new business and employment models to ensure aviation safety, and asks the Commission to regulate where necessary.

Given that the Commission recently came out and openly supported (including on social media) the partnership between Ryanair and the Erasmus Student Network, and thus endorsed Ryanair – an airline which has proven controversial on the issue of working conditions – clarification of the Commission's position on controversial airlines is necessary.

Furthermore, the Commission's proposal on safeguarding competition in air transport does not specifically address the fact that some airlines are undermining fair competition by undermining labour rights.

Can the Commission confirm that Ryanair's documented practice of using zero-hour contracts does not encourage pilots/cabin crew to work despite acute and/or long-lasting health issues?

Can it confirm, on the basis of the EASA's data and its own data on accident and incident numbers, that Ryanair's level of aviation safety is not disproportionately lower than that of other airlines and does not put passengers at excessive risk?

Will it respond to Parliament's request and propose legislation that ensures that new business and employment models do not compromise aviation safety?