

**Question for written answer E-004591/2019**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Tilly Metz** (Verts/ALE)

Subject: The impact of drones on public health and the environment

The EU Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) is currently working on a draft opinion on a U-space regulatory framework. The implementation of a European drone services market will drastically change the nature of European airspace, which until now has been carefully regulated.

The existing EU regulations for drones <sup>1</sup> address their environmental impact, introducing inter alia a maximum permitted noise level. However, a great many questions remain concerning their ecological effects and the consequences for the well-being of EU citizens. Drone operators are seeking to deploy large numbers of commercial drone models, which would lead to a significant amount of visual and noise pollution.

Considering the recent rapid developments in drone technology and the wide range of potential uses for drones, does the Commission believe that the existing regulations will sufficiently protect the environment and the well-being of EU citizens?

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<sup>1</sup> Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/945 of 12 March 2019 on unmanned aircraft systems and on third-country operators of unmanned aircraft systems (OJ L 152, 11.6.2019).