Question for written answer E-000115/2020 to the Commission Rule 138 Jordi Cañas (Renew), Maite Pagazaurtundúa (Renew)

Subject: Rights of air passengers with disabilities

More than thirteen years after the entry into force of Regulation (EC) No 1107/2006 on the rights of disabled persons and persons with reduced mobility when travelling by air, disabled passengers are still at a disadvantage, with their mobility being restricted in three specific situations.

The first such situation arises where airlines deny boarding to passengers with disabilities citing safety reasons. The second is the requirement by air carriers that such passengers be accompanied by another person, at their own expense, as a condition for travel, which violates the right to fly alone without additional requirements thus infringing their right to travel freely for reasons relating to their disability. Finally, aids, such as wheelchairs, walking frames, etc., which are placed in the hold of the aircraft should not merely be seen as baggage and any compensation paid for their loss or damage should be for the real value of these items rather than the much lower compensation paid for baggage.

Is the Commission planning to revise Regulation (EC) No 1107/2006 to tackle these three specific discriminatory practices, which severely affect passengers with reduced mobility?