Question for written answer E-001017/2020 to the Commission Rule 138 Elissavet Vozemberg-Vrionidi (PPE)

Subject: EU air transport safety

A number of recent accidents on low-cost Pegasus Airlines flights have raised questions regarding the company's passenger safety standards. Pegasus Airlines, which is located in Istanbul, also operates in the EU, also chartering aircraft and crews from other European companies.

On 16 February, a Pegasus Airbus 320 caught fire in the course of an emergency landing at Düsseldorf Airport in Germany, forcing 163 people to evacuate using the emergency chutes. This occurred a few days after an aircraft skidded off the runway when its nose landing gear gave way during a landing at Istanbul-Sabiha Gökçen International Airport on 5 February. The fuselage broke into three sections, killing three and injuring 157. Similar incidents occurred in January 2020 and 2018.

Given that stringent flight safety standards in European skies are a constant EU priority:

- 1. Can the Commission say whether it intends to carry out a thorough investigation to verify full compliance by the company with international and European regulations and with aircraft maintenance and safety standards?
- 2. Are regular air transport safety checks carried out on carriers using European airspace and how often is the list of safe airlines operating in the EU updated?