

**Question for written answer E-002272/2020
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Clare Daly (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Public bailout of European airlines and their subsidiaries in third countries as part of the ongoing EU/UK negotiations for a new partnership

Irish airline Stobart Air has its headquarters in Dublin. However, Stobart Air Services UK, a subsidiary of the airline, employs pilots and cabin crew from the Isle of Man and London Southend. Another Irish airline, Cityjet, is in an almost identical situation to Stobart's.

Over 95 % of the company's pilots have been dismissed, along with almost all back office staff, cabin crew and engineers.

In the context of COVID-19, the announcement of a public bailout of the industry and the ongoing negotiations on the new partnership with the UK, cross-border airlines such as Stobart Air and Cityjet face more barriers to accessing public support. However, these companies provide essential connectivity in the context of an island economy.

1. Will the Commission consider new guidelines on state aid and subsidies to airlines?
2. How will the subsidiaries of EU airlines in third countries be treated?
3. How will it guarantee that the future subsidy control agreement between the EU and the UK ensures public support for job and wage protection?