

**Question for written answer E-006216/2020
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Jörgen Warborn (PPE)

Subject: Fair distribution of financial support to airports

In June 2020 the Swedish Government announced a number of aid packages for the airline industry to mitigate the economic impact of the drastic reduction in air travel owing to the COVID-19 pandemic. A total of SKK 4 billion was shared out between the Swedish Civil Aviation Administration, the state airport operator Swedavia and a number of municipally and regionally owned airports. However, Skavsta, Sweden's third largest airport in terms of passenger numbers, has received no State aid whatsoever. The justification given for the decision was that the airport is not majority owned by a municipality or region, but is primarily privately owned. There are reasons to fear that this practice is seriously impeding the conditions for free and fair competition and is making it extremely difficult for airports to be managed outside the public domain.

In the light of the foregoing:

Is the Swedish Government's handling of State aid to airports consistent with EU law? If not, what steps is the Commission intending to take to ensure that Swedish airport operators, regardless of the form of ownership, enjoy reasonable and comparable opportunities to apply for and benefit from aid in order to mitigate the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic?