

**Question for written answer E-000082/2022
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Roman Haider (ID)

Subject: Airlines operating 'ghost flights' to keep airport slots

Airlines are required to use at least 80% of their allocated slots in order to keep them from one season to the next. This rule was relaxed during the pandemic. However, the situation seems to have taken a turn for the worse, with airlines having to operate 'ghost flights' to reach the quota and avoid losing their slots. This practice is clearly at odds with the Green Deal objective.

1. On account of the pandemic, does the Commission plan to extend the exemptions related to the use of slots?
2. Why is the current rule not being reformulated?
3. What can be done about airlines having to operate 'ghost flights' to bring things back in line with the Green Deal objectives?