

ORAL QUESTION H-0606/99  
for Question Time at the part-session in November 1999  
pursuant to Rule 43 of the Rules of Procedure  
by Per Stenmarck  
to the Commission

Subject: Transport policy/aviation

Delays are becoming an increasingly common feature of air traffic in Europe. According to the latest IATA statistics, the number of air passengers in Europe has risen by 6% in 1999. This has been accompanied by a 74% increase in the number of delays. The EU is not prepared for the twofold increase in the number of aircraft movements that is set to take place over the next ten years. Events this summer gave an indication of the chaos that could soon be commonplace.

There are currently 66 national and local air traffic control centres in Europe. What is needed is a common European airspace and a joint air traffic control system. Given that there is little time left, the Commission must act immediately.

What does the Commission plan to do in order to prevent the air traffic chaos in Europe from getting even worse next year?

Tabled: 18.10.1999  
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