

WRITTEN QUESTION P-2834/03
by Gilles Savary (PSE)
to the Commission

Subject: Air transport agreements with the USA

On 1 October 2003, the European Union will open negotiations in Washington with the USA to establish a new global legal framework for transatlantic air links.

In view of the ambitious nature of this objective and the complexity of the issues involved, by when does the Commission expect to be able to conclude an agreement?

In the light of the negotiating mandate drawn up by the Council in June 2003, can the Commission reasonably expect to conclude an agreement within the next few months at the risk of not making genuine progress on all the issues to be discussed?