

WRITTEN QUESTION P-0617/08
by Francesco Ferrari (ALDE)
to the Commission

Subject: Ryanair's new trading policy in breach of Legislative Resolution P6_TA(2007)0337

In recent months, Ryanair - an airline - has introduced a trading policy whereby (amongst other things) passengers are required to pay an extra 4 euros merely to check in at the airport.

Although check-in is a procedure required by airlines themselves, Ryanair presents airport check-in as an optional service for which a fee is payable, as an alternative to free on-line check-in.

However, Ryanair has arbitrarily and unjustifiably denied certain categories of passenger the option of free check-in. These include passengers travelling with children, passengers travelling from Italy to the UK, passengers travelling as a group of 10 or more people and passengers travelling with equipment to assist their mobility - for whom airport check-in is no longer an optional service which passengers may choose but an unavoidable expense.

Having regard to Legislative Resolution P6_TA(2007)0337 on common rules for the operation of air transport services in the Community, will the Commission answer the following questions?

- Does the Commission not consider that what is described above constitutes a form of illegal discrimination against certain passengers - in breach of what is stated in Amendment 47 to Article 24(2) of the resolution quoted?
- Does the Commission not consider that Ryanair is failing to meet the requirements for clear, transparent, unambiguous communication, as stipulated in Amendment 46 to Article 24(1)?
- What action is the Commission intending to take in order to remedy this state of affairs (and other, similar ones) without delay?
- Lastly, does the Commission not consider that this case could be included in a possible 'class action' against Ryanair?