**Question for written answer P-000523/2019**

**to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Jarosław Wałęsa (PPE)**

Subject: Introduction of a minimum hand luggage size compulsory for all EU air carriers

In December 2015, the Commission adopted an Aviation Strategy for Europe, an initiative to boost the EU’s economy, strengthen its industrial base and reinforce its global leadership position. I agree that a strong and outward-looking aviation sector will not only benefit businesses, but also offer EU citizens more connections to the rest of the world at lower prices.

However, on 1 November 2018, many international low cost airlines, starting with Hungary’s WizzAir and Ireland’s Ryanair, introduced changes to their baggage regulations regarding fees for hand luggage. This forces passengers to purchase additional luggage allowances, which is a hidden cost in the final price of the ticket, and raises concern about the lack of transparency in pricing policies.

The introduction of a minimum hand luggage size compulsory for all EU airlines would significantly facilitate air travel. In addition, a one-size standard for all air carriers would improve transfers, thus leading to easier movement of people, which is one of the founding principles of the EU.

Owing to the growing concern among EU citizens on this matter, I have the following questions:

1. In the Commission’s view, do the recent changes in airline baggage regulations have a negative impact on travelling standards in the EU?

2. Does the Commission intend to propose a pan-EU standard for airline baggage policies?