

**Priority question for written answer P-000621/2021  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Andreas Schwab (PPE)**

**Subject:** Follow up to question E-005996/2020 – economic discontinuity analysis and additional money awarded to Alitalia in its present form

In response to my question E-005996/2020, the Commission clearly explained the economic discontinuity principle, stating that it ‘analyses the existence of economic continuity using a set of indicia, including the scope of the assets transferred, the transfer price, the identity of the buyer, the timing of the transfer and the economic logic of the transaction’. On 26 January 2021 Vice-President Vestager said that ‘everyone involved in this process needs to understand that “economic discontinuity” is a real thing’.

1. Can the Commission therefore guarantee that an open and public tender for the slots, ground handling, fidelity programme and maintenance business of Alitalia is a precondition for establishing the economic discontinuity of ITA (Italia Trasporto Aereo) so that competitors can have chance to bid for it and normal market conditions are safeguarded in the single market?
2. Has Italy notified the Commission of the new EUR 200 million aid package? If so, what kind of aid has it been notified as?
3. The airline that is about to be wound down may argue that most of its losses are due to the COVID-19 crisis. Can the Commission confirm that it has been looking at general route profitability prior to the pandemic and has requested that the newco’s network be adapted accordingly? Has the Commission asked for this to be done in line with the cuts that were requested in 2008, as indicated in its letter of 8 January 2021<sup>1</sup>?

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<sup>1</sup> Letter from the Commission to the Permanent Representation of Italy of 8 January 2021 on State aid SA.58173 (COMP/E3/EMR/RB 2021/002606)