



31.3.2023

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

Subject: Petition No 0837/2019 by Deepak Rajani (German) on standard dimensions for carry-on luggage as part of EU Air Passenger Rights

1. Summary of petition

The petitioner calls for completing the EU legislation on Air Passenger Rights with common rules on a single standard for hand luggage dimensions. Many airline companies based within the European Union and flying to destinations within Europe differ on carry-on and checked luggage allowances. Each airline has its own rules on the size of bags they allow and the charges they demand from passengers. In case of change of airlines in the same journey, luggage dimensions allowed may be different. The petitioner considers that these different rules create a hidden cost, if one needs to change airlines for unforeseen or practical reasons. This extraordinary complexity of airline standards and rules seem to be discretionary and disproportionate. The petitioner requests the regulation of Air Passenger Rights such that all airlines are required to allow passengers a uniform standard of hand luggage dimensions.

2. Admissibility

Declared admissible on 10 January 2020. Information requested from Commission under Rule 227 (6).

3. Commission reply, received on 24 July 2020

The Commission's observations

The issue described by the petitioner is currently being examined in the context of the revision of Regulation (EC) No 1008/2008 on air services¹. A number of policy options are being examined with a view to addressing the increasing complexity of airlines' offers regarding luggage, whilst at the same time respecting the airlines' commercial freedom, which in a competitive environment has allowed prices to be reduced and the travel offer for passengers to be increased.

The results of the Commission's impact assessment are expected to be published by the end of 2020, together with any appropriate proposals.

Conclusion

The issue raised by the petitioner is already under examination.

4. Commission reply (REV), received on 31 March 2023

The Commission's observations

The issue described by the petitioner is currently being examined in the context of the ongoing impact assessment in view of a possible revision of Regulation (EC) No 1008/2008 on air services². A number of policy measures are being assessed with a view to addressing the increasing complexity of airlines' offers as regards luggage, whilst at the same time respecting the airlines' commercial freedom, which in a competitive environment has allowed prices to be reduced and the travel offer for passengers to be increased. It is important that consumers should be able to make fully informed choices about what is included in their tickets.

The impact assessment is currently underway and a proposal is expected in due course.

Conclusion

The issue raised by the petitioner is under examination.

¹ Regulation (EC) No 1008/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 September 2008 on common rules for the operation of air services in the Community (Recast) (Text with EEA relevance), OJ L 293, 31.10.2008, p. 3–20.

² Regulation (EC) No 1008/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 September 2008 on common rules for the operation of air services in the Community (Recast) (Text with EEA relevance), OJ L 293, 31.10.2008, p. 3–20.