

Question for written answer E-002574/2024
to the Commission
Rule 144
César Luena (S&D)

Subject: Contribution of contrails to global warming

A recent study by the European Federation for Transport and Environment (T&E)¹ stresses the devastating effect of contrails – like that of direct CO₂ emissions from aviation – on the climate, highlighting the urgent need to cut them both.

It states that only 3% of flights generate 80% of warming attributable to contrails, and that minor changes to the paths of these flights could reduce global contrail warming by more than half before 2040, since flights at higher latitudes are more likely to generate contrails with significant warming effects.

In light of the above:

1. How will the Commission consider addressing contrails and mitigating their warming effects?
2. What does the Commission plan to do to address this problem at global level, especially in the ICAO, in relation to flights entering or leaving European airspace?

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¹ <https://www.transportenvironment.org/articles/aviation-reduce-contrail-warming-for-less-than-eur4-per-flight-new-study>