

Question for written answer E-001958/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
Gaetano Pedulla' (The Left)

Subject: The economic and environmental cost of the private flights taken by the College of Commissioners, particularly the President

According to the articles and investigations that have recently appeared in many Italian and European newspapers, European Commissioners (President von der Leyen foremost among them) frequently use private flights, even for short journeys like Brussels-Luxembourg (187 km) and Vienna-Bratislava (50 km).

Continuing a trend that is believed to go back to 2019, President von der Leyen used private jets 23 times in 2024, accounting for 80 % of all private flights taken by the College of Commissioners that year.

The President's substantial carbon footprint (each private flight generating around 2 tonnes of CO₂) appears to be at odds with the objectives set out by the Green Deal and the sacrifices that European citizens are being asked to make.

This state of affairs is further compounded by the significant costs that taxpayers are being saddled with.

In the light of the above:

1. Could the Commission share how much has been spent since 2019 on private jets for the President and the Commissioners who have served under her, as well as provide us with a breakdown indicating the cost of each flight?
2. Does the Commission believe that using private jets even for very short journeys is compatible with the EU's environmental policies?

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