

**Question for written answer E-004211/2025
to the Commission**

Rule 144

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Subject: Safety of European airports following several incidents involving African airlines

On 21 September 2025, an aircraft belonging to a Tunisian airline nearly collided with another aircraft¹. In August, an Air Algérie aircraft attempted to land at the wrong airport in Toulouse². The pilot mistakenly attempted to land at a military airport. Incidents like these could easily end in tragedy³.

After long periods of lockdown that led to aircraft being grounded, the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) warned of the need for pilots to undergo retraining⁴. While European airlines appear to have rigorously implemented this measure, African airlines have been involved in several incidents of negligence or incompetence on EU territory.

In this regard, does the Commission intend to:

1. Encourage EASA to mandate that pilots from non-European airlines must undergo retraining following the lockdowns?
2. Encourage EASA to step up landing safety procedures for aircraft from non-European airlines landing at European airports?
3. Clarify the aviation safety requirements for third-country airlines under the Single European Sky scheme, which aims to make European airspace safer?

Supporters⁵

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¹ 'Collision between two aircraft narrowly avoided in Nice: how could such an incident occur?', *Le Parisien*, 23 September 2025, <https://www.leparisien.fr/faits-divers/collision-entre-deux-avions-evitee-de-justesse-a-nice-une-erreur-de-piste-possible-selon-un-rapport-preliminaire-23-10-2025-245LZMSL2ZFDBAC5O4PWVVLSDSDE.php#>

² 'Toulouse: Boeing pilot mixes up airports and tries to land at Francalaz rather than Blagnac', *actu.fr*, 12 August 2025, https://actu.fr/occitanie/toulouse_31555/toulouse-le-pilote-du-boeing-se-trompe-d-aeroport-et-tente-d-atterrir-a-francalaz-plutot-qu-a-blagnac_63030034.html

³ In the cases cited, such a tragedy was averted thanks to the quick thinking of French ground staff (in Toulouse) and European pilots (in Nice).

⁴ Air safety statistics in the EU, https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=Air_safety_statistics_in_the_EU

⁵ This question is supported by Members other than the authors: Jean-Paul Garraud (Pfe), Emmanouil Fragkos (ECR).