

**Question for written answer E-004743/2025
to the Commission**

Rule 144

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Subject: Pricing and seating policy for young children on EU flights

The current practice of most EU airlines is to allow infants under two years old to travel for free, while from the age of two a child must occupy a separate paid seat. However, in practice, children under four years old are often unable to sit unassisted, meaning that parents are required to pay for a seat that their child cannot safely occupy alone. This in fact imposes additional costs on families with young children, placing a significant financial burden on households and often creating economic barriers that prevent many families from travelling.

In the light of the above:

1. Given that current EU rules allow airlines to charge for a child's seat from the age of two onwards, even when children cannot occupy these seats independently, does the Commission believe that this raises concerns about fairness and consumer protection?
2. Does the Commission intend to examine the introduction of harmonised rules across the Member States regarding the pricing and seating of children between two and four years of age?
3. What measures does the Commission consider appropriate to ensure that families are not unfairly charged, while maintaining safety and compliance with EU aviation regulations?

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