

**Question for written answer E-001781/2026
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Kostas Papadakis (NI)

Subject: 'War-induced' price hikes in air transport are benefiting corporations but hitting ordinary people hard

Air carriers were quick to take advantage of the Commission's affirmation, so that they could pass off passenger fees as a 'tsunami' of price increases that had been a long time coming.

The new Accelerate EU strategy is a blatant war preparation move, aiming to direct any fuel left over from military refuelling/preparations to civil aviation.

Airline groups are inflating the price of already extortionately priced tickets (by 25 %-30 %) and more than 20 000 short- to mid-haul flights have been cancelled or discontinued. Meanwhile, in the period 2024 to 2025, airline profits, generously subsidised with public and EU money, reached record highs.

All this, while price increases are also making life hard for the people due to crumbling incomes, with Nea Dimokratia seeking thanks for its policy of coupons, passes and scant benefits.

In view of the above, can the Commission answer the following:

1. What view does it take of the fact that the EU's complicity in military involvement and preparedness is giving impetus to the new Accelerate EU strategy, which seeks to ensure the profits of air transport groups by providing a new round of aid and funding, citing the current war climate, while allowing the cost to be passed on to the people by means of price increases, extra fees, flight and network restrictions and all sorts of other burdens?
2. What view does the Commission take of the call for immediate measures to relieve working-class households from the unsustainable cost of air transport, such as wage increases, collective agreements, the complete abolition of excise duties on fuel, energy and air transport, and the abolition of the energy exchange and 'green' charges paid by passengers?

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