

**Question for written answer E-003520/2026
to the Commission**

Rule 144

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Subject: Financing alternatives to Canadair

While major fires have been breaking out across France and Europe, the existing Canadair fleets are ageing and no longer fit for purpose.

On top of that, the Canadairs that have been ordered won't be arriving anytime soon – the earliest batch will be arriving in 2028 and the later orders in 2032.

Further to these new acquisitions, French and European companies (Positive Aviation, Keppeler Evolution, Hynaero, etc.) are working on innovative water bomber aircraft¹, converting, for example, used ATR 72 aircraft into amphibious FF72 capable of scooping up 8 000 litres of water at half the cost. These projects would also reduce operating costs by 40 %.

The idea of creating water-bombing drones is also being looked at, including by converting existing and decommissioned aircraft into drones.

1. Is the Commission financing or is it prepared to finance the purchase of these new water-bombing planes or drones?
2. At the same time, would it be possible to obtain a licence to build Canadair in Europe?

Supporter²

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¹ <https://x.com/AlexXplore/status/2080954114326876556?s=20>.

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