

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000816/25
to the Commission
Michalis Hadjipantela (PPE)
(21 February 2025)**

Subject: Financial assistance for air carriers during the COVID-19 pandemic

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Commission approved various forms of financial assistance for air carriers to mitigate the impact of the crisis. These measures included state aid schemes, direct grants and loans, provided under the State Aid Temporary Framework.

Can the Commission clarify:

1. Which air carriers registered and operating within the European single market received some form of financial assistance or state aid during the COVID-19 pandemic, either from national or European funds?
2. What forms of financial assistance, whether grants, loans or other support mechanisms, were granted to these carriers and on what conditions?
3. Has the repayment of loans or other repayable instruments begun, and if so, what proportion has been repaid so far?

Submitted: 21.2.2025

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Ribera on behalf of the European Commission
(14 April 2025)**

1. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Commission approved several state aid measures covering various forms of support. The Commission adopted a series of decisions, covering state aid, either in the form of damage compensation under Article 107(2)(b) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU (TFEU) or under the ‘Temporary Framework for state aid measures to support the economy in the current COVID-19 outbreak’. ⁽¹⁾ Those decisions covered both individual measures and schemes.

Where Commission decisions relate to individual aid measures aimed at supporting air carriers those decisions identify the beneficiaries. Where the Commission approved schemes, it does not necessarily have knowledge of which airlines ultimately received state aid. All Commission decisions approving such measures are accessible at the webpage for Competition Policy of the Commission ⁽²⁾.

2. Commission state aid decisions describe in detail the form and duration of the financial assistance to be offered by the Member State in question. They also describe the conditions for repayment or exit of the Member State in question, where such conditions are applicable. Furthermore, they describe any applicable monitoring and reporting obligations to be complied with by the Member State in question. The Commission has no information as to what proportion of loans or other financial instruments has already been repaid to date.

⁽¹⁾ Communication from the Commission — Temporary framework for state aid measures to support the economy in the current COVID-19 outbreak (OJ C 911, 20.3.2020, p. 1), as subsequently amended.

⁽²⁾ <https://competition-cases.ec.europa.eu>