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E-005079/2025

Answer given by Mr Tzitzikostas
on behalf of the European Commission
(13.3.2026)

Civil aviation operates under common EU aviation safety rules. There can be no compromise on safety. The Hellenic Civil Aviation Authority (H-CAA) is responsible for ensuring compliance with EU legislation on Air Traffic Management (ATM) in Greece and for the oversight of the Hellenic Air Navigation Service Provider (HASP). The European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) supports the H-CAA by conducting standardisation visits and monitoring their safety oversight.

The Commission expects that the recently adopted Greek Law No 5240/2025¹ will grant to HASP the necessary autonomy, resources and capabilities to invest in staff, including air traffic controllers, and technology. The Commission finds this to be a crucial step to pave the way in addressing the current situation in Greece.

There are three open infringement procedures regarding the deployment of datalink capabilities², the deployment of radars³ and the publication of performance-based navigation procedures⁴. The Commission services are in close contact with HASP and the Greek authorities and, with support from EASA, Eurocontrol and the SESAR Deployment Manager, review Greece's regular progress reports on actions for prompt compliance with EU Law in the field of Air Traffic Management.

Following the incident resulting in the closure of the Greek airspace on 4 January 2026, the Greek Safety Investigation Authority is conducting an independent investigation that will propose recommendations to avoid similar incidents in the future. The H-CAA should determine if there is a need for HASP to take additional measures to ensure safety. The Commission services and EASA will also analyse the results of the investigation for any further steps necessary at EU level.

¹ Greek Law No 5240/2025 of 24 October 2025 on the establishment and organisation of the legal entity governed by public law known as the Hellenic Aviation Service Provider and other provisions, published in the Government Gazette of the Hellenic Republic, Series I, No 184/24.10.2025.

² https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/inf_24_4561, letter of formal notice sent on 03/10/2024.

³ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/inf_25_2745, reasoned opinion adopted on 11.12.2025.

⁴ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_2864, referral decision adopted on 11.12.2025.