

EN

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Answer given by Mr Tzitzikostas
on behalf of the European Commission
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1. To strengthen preparedness, and as announced in the AccelerateEU Communication¹, the Commission has established a Fuel Observatory to monitor EU production, imports, exports and fuel stocks. This improves visibility over supply and demand, helps detect shortages, and supports targeted action, such as alternative sourcing or coordinated stock releases in the EU. Given the context, the Oil Coordination Group meets more often to review EU oil supply security and coordinate action as needed².

The Commission also issued on 8 May 2026 guidance on the flexibilities available under EU aviation legislation to ensure coordination across Member States³. This covers airport slots⁴, travellers and passenger rights⁵, fuel uplift obligations under ReFuelEU Aviation⁶, Public Service Obligations (PSOs)⁷, and the use of alternative jet fuel sources.

2 and 3. The Commission recognises the specific challenges faced by islands, where air connectivity is essential. The AccelerateEU Communication sets out measures to preserve the functioning of the Single Market while safeguarding essential air connectivity across the EU, including island regions.

Regarding the ReFuelEU Aviation Regulation, the guidance on the flexibilities clarifies how airlines can uplift more aviation fuel at the departing airport for compliance with fuel safety rules under Article 5(2). Airports located in outermost regions are not considered within the Regulation.

Finally, at present, there is no immediate threat to the security of supply, although stocks of some fuels are tight. If the situation worsens and the existing flexibilities no longer suffice, the Commission will propose temporary changes to the legislation, where justified.

¹ https://energy.ec.europa.eu/publications/accelerateeu-energy-union-affordable-and-secure-energy-through-accelerated-action_en.

² https://energy.ec.europa.eu/news/commission-takes-stock-situation-oil-markets-amid-developments-middle-east-2026-06-26_en.

³ https://transport.ec.europa.eu/news-events/news/commission-publishes-guidance-support-eu-transport-sector-affected-middle-east-crisis-2026-05-08_en and OJ C2026/2669 of 12.5.2026.

⁴ <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/1993/95/oj>.

⁵ <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2004/261/oj>.

⁶ <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2023/2405/2023-10-31>.

⁷ <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2008/1008/oj>.