

EN

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Answer given by Mr Tzitzikostas
on behalf of the European Commission
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1. The Commission plans to deepen European cooperation in air transport through the forthcoming Aviation Strategy, which is expected to be adopted before the end of 2026.

It should address major challenges linked to efficiency, competitiveness and sustainability, notably by advancing the Single European Sky to reduce fragmentation and improve air navigation, promoting digital and AI technologies, strengthening supply chains, access to critical materials, research and innovation and infrastructure modernisation, and accelerating the green transition through low- and zero-emission propulsion and sustainable aviation fuels. More broadly, the Strategy should aim to reinforce the sector's resilience, strategic autonomy and global leadership, while maintaining high safety, social and environmental standards and ensuring that European aviation remains fit for future challenges.

2. The Commission continues to advance initiatives that provide benefits to citizens and businesses, upholding the Union's standards. These efforts include simplifying EU laws, minimising compliance burden, addressing inconsistencies and implementation challenges.

As announced in the 'A Simpler, Clearer and Better Enforced EU Rulebook'¹, the Commission will notably simplify ReFuelEU Aviation² by clarifying and streamlining obligations, improving transparency and reducing complexity, while preserving the policy's ambition and predictability for investments into Sustainable Aviation Fuels.

The revision of the Air Services Regulation³ will modernise the framework for EU air services to reinforce the internal market and make EU airlines more competitive in global aviation markets.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:52026DC0380>.

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2023/2405/oj>.

³ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2008/1008/oj>.