Question for written answer E-014705/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Paloma López Bermejo (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Aviation safety and social dumping

A recent study by Ghent University, funded in part by the Commission, highlights the increased use of 'atypical' employment practices in the aviation sector vis-à-vis pilots and cabin crew members. The result is increased underemployment in the form of subcontracting, zero-hours contracts, pay-to-fly schemes and other unusual systems.

The study emphasises how the use of these 'atypical' systems is particularly prevalent among young people under 30. It also demonstrates how the irregular practices spread insecurity and make pilots afraid to report instances of blatant abuse. In addition to the deterioration in rights and industrial relations caused by this situation, there are also clear implications for aviation security.

Given that the EU has competences in the field of aviation security and employment, could the Commission answer the following:

What is its view of the rise in these employment practices in the aviation sector?

What consequences does it think these practices will have for aviation safety?

Is it planning to intervene to ensure that the poor employment practices do not have a negative impact on aviation safety?

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