

**Question for written answer E-015415/2015**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Jens Rohde (ALDE)**

Subject: Flight delays

Under the EU's current legislation, airline passengers may apply for compensation if a flight is delayed by more than five hours. In principle this is good for consumer protection, but it may also have indirect adverse consequences. For example, where an airline has a flight that is at risk of being delayed so much that compensation is incurred, it will be inclined to delay other flights if this can help ensure that the already delayed flight arrives more quickly. The airline thus avoids paying compensation. If that is the case, the current EU rules contribute to several flights being delayed.

Is the Commission aware whether the current legislation gives rise to several delayed flight departures owing to airlines' attempts to avoid paying compensation? If so, what measures will the Commission take to deal with the problem of deliberate delays?