



ECA

European Cockpit Association

20%

**of all global air fatalities
have pilot fatigue as
a contributing factor**

We Don't Want Your Pilot to Fall Asleep EU Ministers, Make Passenger Safety Your Priority!

Why?

We are pilots from all across Europe.

We are here today because we are concerned about your flight safety as a passenger. This safety is being threatened by a proposed new EU legislation on 'pilot fatigue'.

The EU Transport Ministers are meeting today in Luxembourg. We want them to make YOUR safety THEIR Number One priority.

We want them to resist the pressure from the airlines to adopt EU rules on pilot fatigue that are not based on science. A competitive airline is vital for Europe and its citizens – but no commercial interest should come into the way of the passengers' basic right to a safe flight.

What?

The new EU pilot fatigue rules will define how long and how frequently a pilot can fly before he/she becomes 'fatigued'. When fatigued, a pilot's alertness and cognitive ability are compromised and the safety of the flight cannot be guaranteed anymore.

It is a fact that 15-20% of all global fatal air accidents have pilot fatigue as a contributing factor.

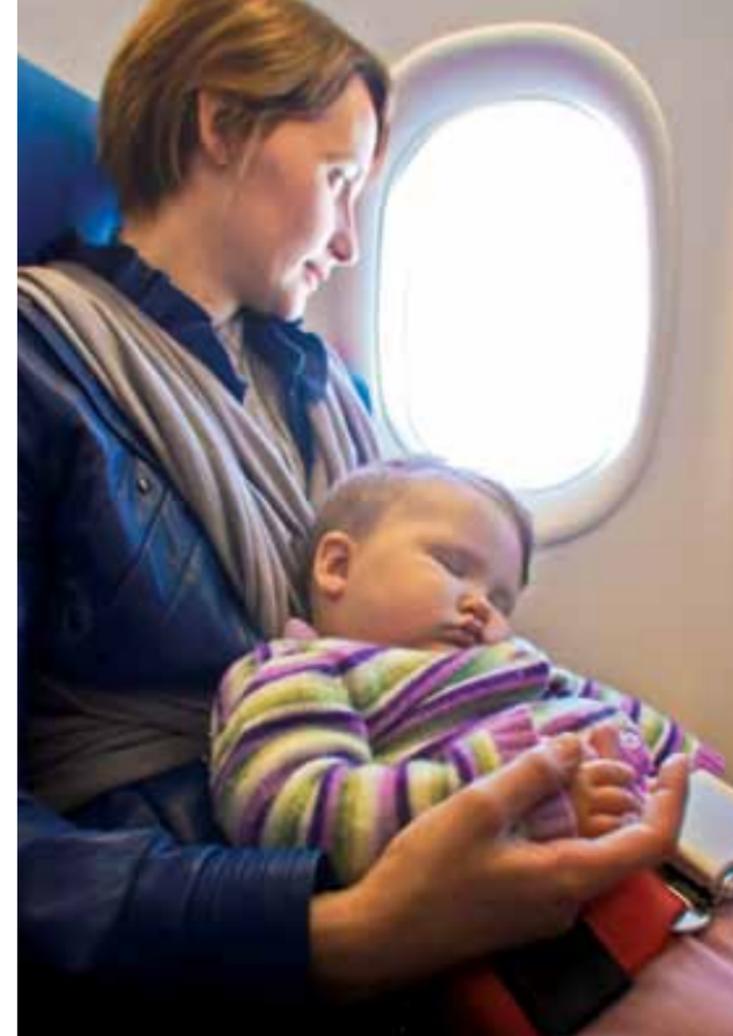
That's why we as professional pilots believe that strict science-based rules are of vital importance to ensure the safety of passengers, crews and the people living under our flight paths.

What's wrong?

The new pilot fatigue rules have been developed with very little regard for decades of scientific research – including the EU's own scientific report! This, despite legal international obligations to base such rules on scientific evidence; and despite the fact that the USA will introduce new science-based pilot fatigue rules in August this year – much stricter ones than the EU rules (as shown in the graph).

Crucially, the new EU rules will replace current national legislation which – in several EU countries (UK, Spain, etc.) – sets much stricter flight time limits than the EU minimum rules. The result will be a downward harmonisation of safety standards in many countries.

**YOUR SAFETY as a passenger
is at stake!**



What Must Be Done?

The rules are currently being developed by the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) under the oversight of the European Commission and EU Transport Commissioner Siim Kallas.

EASA will change its current proposal only if the Commission, the Commissioner himself, and the EU Member States' governments tell the Agency to take on board scientific evidence.

The final say over any new rules lays with the governments of the 27 EU Member States.

We request

We therefore call upon the Ministers present at today's EU Transport Council, to:

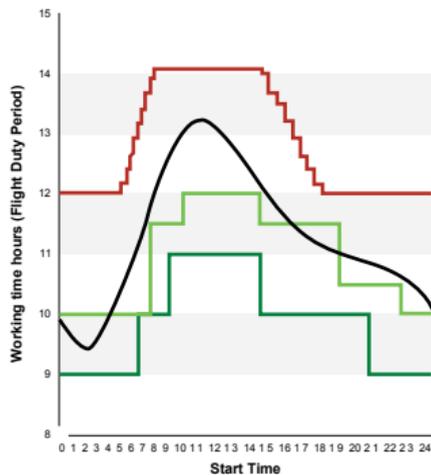
- **wake up to the real safety risk pilot fatigue poses to the travelling public;**
- **strongly support science-based EU rules to effectively combat these risks; and**
- **request EASA to change the current proposal in line with scientific evidence.**

And we call on YOUR support as passengers – or as friends and relatives of those who fly – to stand up for your basic right for safe flight. Do not let the commercial interests of airlines dictate your safety level!

What Can YOU Do?

- Write to your Transport Minister and express your concerns.
- Write to EU Transport Commissioner Siim Kallas and express your concerns: siim.kallas@ec.europa.eu
- More information:
If you would like any more information please email: pilotfatigue@eurocockpit.be
or visit our website: <http://www.eurocockpit.be/pages/flight-time-limitations>
- Keep posted! If you want to be kept informed about future actions that might require your support, please send an email to: pilotfatigue@eurocockpit.be

Fatigued pilots can endanger passengers safety



■ EASA Proposal ■ UK current rules
■ Medium to Severe fatigue ■ US proposed rules

Note: EU Limits for Truck Drivers: 9hrs driving time per day/10hrs working time at night

This graph shows the working times for a 2-pilot long-haul flight operation, depending on start time.

- **Black line:** Scientifically derived threshold where medium/severe fatigue kicks in ('Karolinska scale').
- **Green lines:** Science-based US proposal and UK present limits. These limits are mostly well below onset of medium/severe fatigue.
- **Red line:** The proposed EU limits are not science-based and allow the longest working hours. They are far above the safe UK and US limits, and far above the onset of medium to severe fatigue, especially for early and late starts. Therefore, they do not guarantee safe flights for the passengers.

Who Are We?

We are part of the European Cockpit Association (ECA), which represent more than 38,600 pilots in 38 European countries at the European level. We all are safety professionals and we care deeply about the safety of aviation and the safety of our passengers on board.

