



Background

- For many years, the European Cockpit Association and its 38,650 pilot members have been raising their concerns regarding the safety hazards that pilot fatigue poses to the safety of air passengers and flight crew.
- On 5 October 2009, we even organised an EU-wide action day in the main European airports and cities, requesting the EU institutions to base pilot fatigue rules on science.
- In December 2009, the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), launched a drafting process on EU's future pilot fatigue rules.
- In December 2010, EASA published a very immature and inadequate proposal. After reviewing 50,000+ comments from stakeholders, they released a revised draft in January 2012. Although it incorporates some urgently-needed improvements, this proposal still does not protect sufficiently passengers and air crews from the risks posed by crew fatigue; it disregards science on key aspects and would lower safety standards currently in place in many EU countries.
- The proposed rules are the result of intensive lobbying from the airlines, which are driven by commercial interests, in the detriment of European passengers' safety.
- Tomorrow, EASA and stakeholders will meet to review comments to this latest proposal. Pilots and cabin crew are here today to show EASA they are concerned about the safety of their passengers and to demand that future rules on crew fatigue be based on scientific and medical knowledge!

» **EASA must wake up and put passengers' safety as their n°1 priority!**



Pilots Demonstrate in front of EU Ministers on 16 June 2011

