



PRESS RELEASE

EurECCA: EU Commission is trying to postpone any meaningful investigation of the EU–Qatar aviation agreement beyond their current political mandate

Brussels, 07-10-2026 — The European Cabin Crew Association (EurECCA) is raising serious concerns about the European Commission’s decision to postpone its evaluation of the EU–Qatar Comprehensive Air Transport Agreement (CATA) until the end of 2029.

In a letter to EurECCA, the European Commission confirmed that it will carry out the evaluation requested by the European Parliament “**by the end of 2029**”, after which it will consider what steps may be appropriate. As the mandate of the current Commission as well as the Parliament will end shortly before the target date within that very year, this ridiculously long timeframe could lead to avoiding responsibility for those currently in office. To EurECCA it is very clear: Responsibility on the European level cannot be deferred onto the next legislature without damaging reputation of European institutions themselves.

The Commission has stated that it continues to have confidence in the integrity of the CATA negotiating process and its outcome, while acknowledging that it has taken note of the concerns expressed by Parliament in its Report on discharge of the implementation of the General Budget of the EU 2024. For EurECCA, **acknowledging concerns and scheduling an evaluation several years later are positions irreconcilable with each other.**

Scrutiny of an agreement directly impacting European employment and social standards as well as aviation safety rules cannot be deferred towards the end of the legislative term: The Commission has to act now in order to stop the provisional application of the CATA immediately. Hence, **EurECCA asks for an immediate investigation yielding a written report before the end of this year.**

“This timetable does not resolve the concerns raised by the Parliament; it postpones them,” said Cas Voskuyl, President of EurECCA. “An evaluation scheduled for the very end of the current institutional cycle cannot substitute for meaningful scrutiny and accountability while the agreement is being implemented. European workers and the sector can not wait until the current political responsibility has passed before fundamental questions about this agreement are addressed.”

EurECCA has previously called for the EU–Qatar CATA to be suspended and terminated, citing concerns over labour rights, social standards, competition, transparency and aviation safety (see full position paper [here](#)).



“European institutions must be accountable for decisions taken during their mandate,” said Joachim Vazquez-Bürger, Vice President of EurECCA. “The solution cannot simply be to move the substantive assessment to the point at which political responsibility has shifted to the next institutional cycle. If there are serious questions concerning labour standards, competition, safety and the integrity of the negotiation, those questions deserve examination now.”

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**EurECCA represents, protects and develops the rights
and needs of all cabin crew all over Europe.**

FLYING TOGETHER – PROTECTING EACH OTHER

About EurECCA: established in Brussels in 2014, the European Cabin Crew Association, EurECCA, represents, protects and develops the rights and needs of cabin crew all over Europe. It is composed of cabin crew unions from European Union Member States as well as accession and bordering states and represents some 50,000 cabin crew in Europe. EurECCA has no political connections. EurECCA's work is around Cabin Crew working conditions, wages, social protection and health and safety at work.

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