

**Question for written answer E-002484/2014  
to the Commission**  
Rule 117  
**David Casa (PPE)**

Subject: Swiss airspace

Last week a passenger aircraft en route to Rome was hijacked by the co-pilot. Even though the aircraft was flying in Swiss airspace, it was necessary to deploy Italian and French fighter jets to escort the plane to a safe landing in Geneva. Despite being aware of the situation, the Swiss authorities did not respond to the incident because it occurred outside of normal office hours<sup>1</sup>.

Is the Commission aware of any joint airspace protection agreement between Switzerland and the EU that could explain the Swiss authorities' lack of response to this incident?

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.businessweek.com/news/2014-02-17/swiss-clock-punching-air-force-relies-on-france-for-hijacked-jet>