



c/o Vereinigung Cockpit e.V., Reinhardtstr. 44, 10117 Berlin

Commissioner for Competition
Margrethe Vestager

European Commission
Rue de la Loi / Wetstraat 200
1049 Brussels

via email: margrethe-vestager-contact@ec.europa.eu

Email
office.berlin@vcockpit.de

Phone
+49 30 - 2232 0708

Date
13 February 2024

JOINT STATEMENT OF ITA AIRWAYS AND LUFTHANSA GROUP TRADE UNIONS

Dear Commissioner Vestager,

At the start of the second phase of the review process for Lufthansa's entry into ITA, we would like to contact you.

As time is running out and we have not received a reply to our letter of 16 November 2023 to Commissioner Reynders, we would like to remind you of our request.

As we already informed the Commission at the start of the review process, we, as representatives of all employees of ITA Airways and the Lufthansa Group, continue to fully support the planned industrial partnership and the Lufthansa Group's entry into ITA Airways.

The fact that an alliance of 11 trade unions and professional organisations has come together to support this project shows that we consider a positive outcome of the review process to be very important for our jobs and for Europe as an independent aviation location.

Other takeovers and mergers of airlines in Europe also show how important it is to join forces in order to be able to withstand competition from the Near and Middle East.

We firmly believe that our industry is currently facing an industrial and political crossroads. The European airlines are exposed to unfair competition, not least because of the agreement with Qatar. There is no level playing field.

Either we create a strong and resilient aviation industry within the democratic, rights-based and liberal Europe, or our market will increasingly be taken over by non-democratic and authoritarian third countries. This means the loss of jobs, tax revenues and independent connectivity. If we achieve intra-European consolidation in the balance of European airlines, intra-European competition will not be disrupted, but our strength in relation to non-EU carriers will be safeguarded.

We understand that the Commission has to scrutinise economic activities of this dimension very closely due to their importance for the European market and consumers.

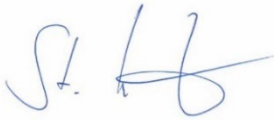
For this reason in particular, and because of the immense importance for the employees of the companies in several member states, we ask you to listen to the voices of the employees and include them in your considerations.

We are available for dialogue at any time and with a delegation the size of your choice.

We look forward to exchanging ideas with you as soon as possible.

Kind regards

The Representatives of the Trade Unions



Stefan Herth
Präsident

Vereinigung Cockpit



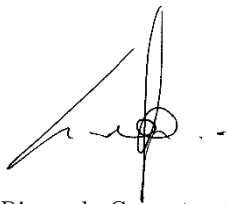
Joachim Vázquez Bürger
Vorstandsvorsitzender

Unabhängige Flugbegleiter
Organisation



Christine Behle
Stv. Vorsitzende

Vereinte
Dienstleistungsgewerkschaft



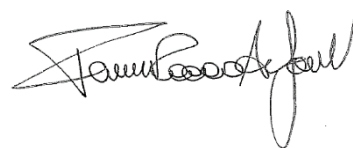
Riccardo Canestrari
President

Associazione Nazionale
Professionale Aviazione Civile



Ivan Viglietti
Segretario Nazionale

Uiltrasporti



Francesco Rocco Alfonsi
General Secretary

UGL Trasporto Aereo



Fabrizio Cuscito
Coordinatore Nazionale
Trasporto Aereo

Federazione Italiana Lavoratori
Trasporti CGIL



Monica Mascia
Segretario Nazionale

Federazione Italiana Trasporti



Andreas Strobl
Präsident

Austrian Cockpit Association



Anton Fuszko
Vorsitzender
Branchenausschuss Airlines

vida



Clemens Kopetz
Präsident

AEROPERS

