EU/Japan Agreement: civil aviation safety

2019/0275(NLE) - 02/12/2020 - Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading

The Committee on Transport and Tourism adopted the report by Cláudia MONTEIRO DE AGUIAR (EPP, PT) on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of the Agreement on civil aviation safety between the European Union and Japan.

The committee recommended that the European Parliament give its consent to the conclusion of the agreement.

On 7 March 2016, the Council authorised the European Commission to open negotiations with Japan with a view to concluding a bilateral aviation safety agreement, in order to strengthen aviation safety and contribute to the global competitiveness of the European aviation industry by cutting red tape and facilitating exports.

The agreement was signed on 22 June 2020, subject to its conclusion.

Under the agreement, the EU and Japan will accept findings of compliance and certificates issued following specific procedures carried out by the other party's competent authorities.

Furthermore, the bilateral agreement should:

- promote cooperation, a very high level of civil aviation safety and environmental performance, and the free flow of civil aeronautical products and services;

- contributes to the recovery of the aviation sector, heavily affected by the COVID-19 pandemic;

- be based on reciprocal trust in each other’s aviation regulatory and compliance system, the Agreement also considers transparency, cooperation related to safety issues, protection of data, and confidential information;

- establish a Joint Committee, composed of both parties' representatives, to ensure proper implementation of the provisions.