

Urgent call to action

March 2021

EBAA urges National authorities to eliminate administrative barriers in the issuance of permits and authorisations for non-scheduled flights following the conclusion of the EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement

EBAA's view for national governments and authorities

On 24 December 2020, after intensive negotiations, the European Commission and the UK government reached an agreement on the terms of post Brexit cooperation.

The agreement provides for continued and sustainable air connectivity, though market access falls short of what the EU Single Market offers. It includes provisions so that competition between EU and UK operators takes place on a level playing field, ensuring high levels of safety, workers' rights, and environmental protection.

Since 1 January 2021, UK business aviation operators have been confronted with administrative barriers of all sorts as a result of their new Third Country Operator (TCO) status. This undermines their ability to perform last-minute flights from the UK to the EU (3rd & 4th freedoms). The UK implemented a series of measures, such as the Block Permit Scheme for ad hoc charter operations, to ensure business continuity for EU Business aviation operators wishing to fly to the UK.

We would like to bring to the attention of national authorities that **the facilities granted by UK authorities are limited in time and conditional on obtaining reciprocal conditions** for UK operators. **A lack of cooperation in this regard would result in a detrimental situation for our entire ecosystem** and is not desirable given the unprecedented challenges our industry faces in the context of the COVID19 crisis.

Business aviation provides flexibility and non-scheduled flights are often organised at very short notice. Administrative barriers prevent operators from obtaining the required permits and authorisations in time with the risk that flights can't be operated, constituting a financial loss for the operator and a difference of treatment within the industry that the agreement seeks to avoid.

To ensure a level playing field between all business aviation operators that is consistent with the philosophy of the agreement, **we call on national authorities to urgently put in place schemes and practical solutions ensuring the elimination of the current administrative barriers for all Third Country Operators**. In this way, Business aviation operators, on both sides of the Channel, can benefit from the same rules.

We urge national authorities to cooperate for the benefit of all.

Let's work together

We look forward to working with EU and national policy-makers and regulators to ensure that our sector can return to normal operations as quickly as possible and help you shape the European economic and social recovery.

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About EBAA

The European Business Aviation Association (EBAA) is the leading organisation for operators of business aircraft in Europe. Our mission is to enable responsible, sustainable growth for business aviation, enhance connectivity and create opportunities. EBAA works to improve safety standards and share knowledge, to further positive regulation and to ease all aspects of closely tailored, flexible, point to point air transportation for individuals, governments, businesses and local communities in the most time-efficient way possible. Founded in 1977 and based in Brussels, EBAA represents +700 members companies, corporate operators, commercial operators, manufacturers, airports, fixed-based operators, and more, with a total fleet of +1,000 aircraft. Follow us on [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#), or visit our website on www.ebaa.org.