

cc:

Commissioner for Jobs and Social Rights, Nicolas Schmit  
Commissioner for Transport, Adina Vălean

*via email*

## Europe must create confidence, not stir up fears for the future

Dear Mrs von der Leyen,  
dear Mrs Vestager,

the Corona crisis has hit the airline industry extremely hard worldwide. Our business has almost completely collapsed due to the strict travel restrictions imposed by many countries. The cuts are not self-inflicted, but they have led to massive losses in revenue and threaten hundreds of thousands of jobs in our industry.

During the acute phase of the crisis, we have flown holidaymakers home from all over the world and are still doing everything we can to bring urgently needed medical supplies to Europe.

As employees from the various business units, such as Swiss and Edelweiss in Switzerland, Austrian Airlines in Austria, Brussels and Eurowings, among others, we will make our contribution to getting the companies of the Lufthansa Group through the crisis. We firmly believe that we will succeed in doing this together with the companies and the announced state support from Germany, Austria, Belgium and Switzerland.

### **We want to save our Lufthansa Group!**

Do not risk our chance by massive restrictions! Neither employees of the Lufthansa Group nor the citizens of Europe will understand if tens of thousands of jobs are lost not because of Covid-19, but because of conditions imposed by the EU Commission.

Some airlines in the low-cost segment have large financial reserves because they have disregarded the rights of employees for years and have passed on their business risk to the workforce. Recently, these companies have also taken advantage of financial state aid. If the Lufthansa Group had to give up slots to such airlines, you, Mrs von der Leyen, and you, Mrs Vestager, would be responsible on behalf of the EU for even more intensive social dumping, increasing bogus self-employment and a massive erosion of labour standards. The Lufthansa Group, on the other hand, accepts social responsibility for its workforce.

We expect such social and qualitative criteria to be included in decisions at EU level.

We urge you:

**Do not put our efforts at risk and approve the rescue package for the Lufthansa Group without conditions!**



**AEROPERS**  
Swiss Airline Pilots Association

