Aviation is the safest mode of transport ... but can be further improved

Since 1958, commercial aircraft accidents have fallen steadily despite the constant growth in air traffic.

The current fatal accident rate is well below 1 fatal accident per million flights.

How can we reach the EU’s goal to reduce fatal accidents to 1 per 10 million commercial aircraft flights by 2050?

Is Europe still addressing today’s key risks? Are we on the right path?

The EU is investing in research for better aviation safety solutions

160 projects were analysed, including 53 in depth, to identify research gaps to further focus research on aviation safety.

Five major aviation safety challenges

- New business models
  - Do new and hybrid business models maintain high safety standards or could they result in lower safety?

- Drones
  - Uncrewed vehicles and personal aerial vehicles will be game changers

- Cybersecurity
  - The risk factor is complex and difficult to mitigate

- Adverse weather
  - The ability to predict and avoid or mitigate weather-related threats remains a key focus

- Automation
  - A renewed safety focus in the cockpit and air traffic control is required

Recommendations for policymakers

Move towards a research strategy focusing on risk

Harness human factors

Reduce the operational risk portfolio

Improve post-accident survivability

Support new technologies and safety solutions

MORE INFORMATION

Read the full R&I Projects for Policy report on Aviation Safety:

Find all R&I Projects for Policy reports at:
http://ec.europa.eu/research/p4p

See also:
https://www.easa.europa.eu/
https://ec.europa.eu/research/transport
http://ec.europa.eu/transport

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