



"[air navigation control, [...] is a task involving the exercise of public authority and is not of an economic nature, since that activity constitutes a service in the public interest which is intended to protect both the users of air transport and the populations affected by aircraft flying over them".
(Extract of decision C.364/92 of the European Court of Justice).

www.atceuc.org secretariat@atceuc.org

The ATCEUC Committee Meeting held in Bucharest on 2nd to 4th April 2014 condemns and will actively oppose the practice or the intention of some European Union members to include Search and Rescue (SAR) costs in the route charges. This is contrary to and outside the scope of EU legislation and seriously undermines the ability of air navigation service providers to remain efficient and transparent. SAR is a public service under the State's responsibility, it includes maritime accidents and other incidents rescue, irrelevant to air navigation.

ATCEUC fully supports the planned industrial action of GATCA against the attempt of the HCAA administration to prepare and submit the national performance plan for RP2 without taking into account ATCOs' positions as equal stakeholders, in violation of EU legislation. Personnel recruitment and much needed modernization of ATM systems are also absent from the NPP agenda, as well as the creation of a self-sustained and truly independent ANSP.

Bucharest 4th April 2014

Volker Dick
President of ATCEUC

Secretariat : ATCEUC/CRNA SUD-EST - 1, rue Vinent Auriol - 13617 Aix-en-Provence Cedex 1 (France)

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