

Aviation Campaigners' Conference

Brussels 26th March

Auberge "Sleepwell" Youth Hostel, Rue du Damier 23, 1000 Brussels

Campaigning on Climate Change and Noise

A chance for aviation campaigners from around Europe to hear the latest news from the European Parliament and the Commission, to meet with each other and to plan a programme of events for 2007

If you are lobbying or campaigning on aviation this conference is for you!

There will be talks, discussions and workshops on all aspects of aviation

- **climate change**
- **noise**
- **night flights**
- **general aviation**
- **the tax-breaks the aviation industry receives**
- **emissions trading**
- **direct action**

and

- **a chance to hear the latest news from the European Parliament**

Who will be at the conference?

- **local airport campaigners**
- **lobbyists from NGOs (Non-Governmental Organisations)**
- **direct action**

Across Europe there is a lot of opposition to the expansion of aviation.

This conference provides campaigners with a **unique opportunity** to meet with each other. It will be the **first time** for many years that campaigners will have had the chance to meet so many other campaigners from across Europe and to hear about the **latest developments** in the European Parliament and the European Commission.

The Conference is free, but there will be a charge of 10 euros to cover the cost of lunch, coffee and tea

(payable when you arrive)

Conference Agenda

10.30 Registration and Coffee

11.00 Introduction from Chair -Evert Hassink (Aviation Campaigner, MilieuDefensie, Netherlands)

11.10 Campaigning on Aviation and Climate in Brussels – Caroline Lucas MEP

Caroline will outline the latest developments in Brussels, but also highlight how and where campaigners can influence the decision-makers. To be followed by questions.

11.50 Taxing Aviation Fuel – Jos Dings, Director Transport & Environment

Jos will outline the way that aviation can be curbed through the use of taxes and charges

12.10 From Planes to Trains – John Stewart, Vice Chair UECNA

John will demonstrate the huge scope there is to reduce the number of flights using Europe's airports if policies are put in place which cut the number of short haul flights and promote rail travel.

12.30 Questions and Discussion

13.00 Lunch

14.00 Will the Noise Climate Improve? – Tim Johnson, Director Aviation Environment Federation

Tim will outline recent developments in noise and aviation, plus questions

14.30 How campaigners can monitor the flight paths around their airports – Horst Weise and Sacha Friebe, DFLD

The two Frankfurt campaigners will outline the system they have created to monitor on the screen the planes landing and taking off in Germany and show how, at a low cost, other campaigners can do the same. To be followed by questions.

15.10 Tea

15.30 Workshops

There will be a choice of workshops. Each workshop will have a short introduction on the subject and then come up with practical ways to co-ordinate campaigning on the topic.

Campaigning Workshop 1: The Noise Directive – how campaigners can influence it, led by Martin Kessel (President UECNA) and Veronique de Potter (Brussels Airport Campaign)

This year the European Commission is revising the Noise Directive which affects airports. It is an opportunity for campaigners to influence it, particularly as far as night flights is concerned

or

Campaigning Workshop 2: General Aviation led by André Fontanel, Conseil National du Bruit, France

Currently campaigners on general aviation – those people living around the airfields where leisure planes can cause problems – are lobbying the Commission with two specific demands: silencers on the planes to be mandatory; and the hours and routes they fly regulated. The Commission has accepted this as a matter within its remit and is likely to make decisions in 2007.

or

Campaigning Workshop 3: Taking Direct Action led by Joss Garman

Joss, a co-founder of the UK direct action network Plane Stupid, will lead a discussion on the place of direct action in our campaigning.

16.15 Campaigning Together in 2007

Final discussion led by Evert Hassink and John Stewart. It will include discussion about using our websites and about the European Day of Action.

17.15 Close

Speakers

Caroline Lucas is the Green MEP for South East England. She has a long-standing interest in aviation. She was the rapporteur to the European Parliament's Environment Committee when it produced its report last year recommending a range of taxes to curb emissions from aviation.

Jos Dings is the Director of the respected Brussels-based lobby group, Transport and Environment (T & E). Jos has a background in economics.

Evert Hassink is the aviation campaigner for MilieuDefensie, based in Amsterdam. He compiles the Aviation Watch news bulletin which is sent to campaigners across Europe.

Tim Johnson is the Director of the Aviation Environment Federation in London. He represents the NGOs on a number of EC and international bodies.

John Stewart is the Vice Chair of UECNA (the Europe-wide body which represents airport community groups). He also chairs HACAN ClearSkies, which represents residents under the Heathrow flight paths.

Horst Weise and Sacha Friebe are two campaigners based in Germany who have used their technical knowledge to develop a system which local organisations can use to track the flight paths at their airports.

Martin Kessel is the Chair of UECNA. He lives in Frankfurt and was involved with the Frankfurt Airport campaign for many years.

Veronique de Potter lives in Brussels. She plays a leading role in the campaign to deal with the problems caused by Brussels Airport where night flights are a particular problem.

André Fontanel is from the [Conseil National du Bruit](#) in France where there is a major campaign to curb the nuisance from general aviation flights.

Joss Garman is the co-founder of Plane Stupid, the direct action organisation in the UK. Joss, a student, has been involved in environmental campaigning since he was 14.