



Press Release

***"Save your right, save your flight!"* Citizens launch an EU-wide campaign to protect air passenger rights.**

A new European Citizens' Initiative, "*Save your right, save your flight!*" launched its signature [collection](#) campaign today, 8 August 2025. Behind it is a group of citizens concerned that the EU is quietly preparing to water down the rights passengers have relied on for over two decades.

At issue is a proposal backed by the Council that would raise the minimum delay for flight compensation from three to four hours — and up to six hours for long-haul journeys — while reducing compensation amounts for many routes. For most passengers, these changes would mean no longer being eligible for any compensation at all.

The organisers behind the initiative argue this is a quiet rollback of protections that have been in place for over 20 years.

"These rights were introduced for a reason. When your flight is seriously delayed or cancelled, you deserve more than an apology," said the organising team. "We should not be solving administrative delays by lowering the bar for accountability."

The campaign calls on EU citizens to stand up for rules that work and to send a clear signal that passenger protections should be strengthened, not scaled back. Whether it's a student on a budget flight, a parent flying with kids, or a worker returning home, compensation rules matter when things go wrong.

The initiative needs to collect one million verified signatures across at least seven EU countries to require a formal response from the European Commission. But for the organisers, the campaign is about more than just numbers, it's about making sure citizens are heard in decisions that affect them directly.

Starting today, 8 August, all EU citizens can support the initiative through the official platform hosted by the European Commission.



Quotes from the initiators of the ECI

The EU boasts the highest consumer protection for passengers flying within the continent. Yet its government now wants to cut compensation due in case of delays and cancellations. Our ECI intends to counter that by giving voice to millions of travelers

Alberto Alemanno, Jean Monnet professor of EU law at HEC Paris, and founder of The Good Lobby

We believe that any efforts at expanding air passenger rights should not come at the expense of existing protections. Our initiative is an opportunity for citizens to engage in the political process and protect the rights that we have benefited from for the last two decades.

Marian Fila, College of Europe graduate

More information and signature collection [here](#)

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