



Saura focuses on sustainable and safe air transport mobility at the opening of ENAIRE's Strategic Workshop

- The acting Secretary of State for Infrastructure, Transport and Housing and ENAIRE's chairman underscored the socio-economic relevance of air transport as a driver for productivity, social cohesion and the fight against climate change
- The meeting is addressing the main challenges in the industry, such as the growth of air traffic, which IATA estimates will reach 8.2 billion passengers by 2037
- The main challenges: capacity, sustainable growth, service quality, the Digital Single European Sky, technological innovation, internationalisation, safety and cybersecurity
- Saura referred to ENAIRE's future Strategic Plan, which will turn the Spanish air navigation provider into a global operator through its participation in alliances and consortia, or through international competitive bidding to provide services

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This morning, the acting Secretary of State for Infrastructure, Transport and Housing, Pedro Saura, opened a workshop where the foundations of ENAIRE's new Strategic Plan, the 2025 Flight Plan, are being laid. Present at this workshop are the industry's top representatives: Eurocontrol, the European Commission, EASA, DGAC, the Ministry of Defence, Aena and airline associations.

Saura structured his presentation around two major points. First, he noted the socio-economic relevance of air transport, which in the case of Spain, the world's leading holiday destination, is a true driver of productivity, social cohesion (due to its peninsular and insular uniqueness), as well as in the fight against climate change.





For Saura, the policy of the Ministry of Works should focus on the public and be geared towards its needs for safe, sustainable and connected mobility.

According to the acting Secretary of State, the great challenges to air transport in coming years will be to provide us, both "landside" (airports) and "airside" (air navigation), with the capacity needed to be able to successfully handle the growth of air traffic, which, according to IATA, will double by 2037 and reach 8.2 billion passengers.

He also pointed out the need to address the increase in delays that, in the case of Europe, are focused in the centre of the continent, affecting the remaining countries and Spain due to its geographical location.

Saura explicitly mentioned the challenge of the Digital Single European Sky through automation and technological innovation, where ENAIRE plays a key role in driving R&D in air traffic management.

Another aspect that was underscored was the subject of unmanned aircraft, drones, a rapidly growing emerging sector that in 20 years, according to European Commission estimates, will generate 100,000 jobs and have a turnover of 10 billion euros a year.

One of the pillars of ENAIRE's future Strategic Plan will be internationalisation, which involves turning ENAIRE into a global operator through its participation in alliances and consortia, or through international tenders to provide air navigation services.

The Secretary of State concluded his speech by stressing the importance of cybersecurity and transport safety, not only as it concerns aviation, but from a multimodal standpoint that encompasses rail, land and ports.

Nearly 200 national and international attendees

Following the opening statement by the Secretary of State, the General Secretary of Transport, Maria José Rallo, chaired a working panel on the challenges and strategies of European air traffic management. The panel members included Iacopo Prissinotti (Director of the Network Manager, EUROCONTROL), Tanja Grobotek (CANSO Director of European Affairs), Rafael Schvartzman (IATA regional vice-president of Europe), Achim Baumann (Alliance for Europe A4E Policy Manager), and Peter Hotham (Deputy Executive Director of SESAR Joint Undertaking, a public-private alliance that is pursuing the Single European Sky).

Another panel on challenges and strategies for Spanish air navigation is planned for the afternoon session, which will be chaired by Ángel Luis Arias, ENAIRE's Director General, and feature Isabel Maestre, Director of AESA, Jesús





Pérez Blanco, Deputy General Director of the Civil Aviation General Directorate, Javier Marín, CEO of Aena, Brigadier General Julio Nieto, of the Navy Staff, Javier Gándara, Chairman of ALA and Federico Belausteguigoitia, manager of ACETA.

About ENAIRE

ENAIRE is the company belonging to the Public Works Department that provides air navigation services in Spain. It renders aerodrome control services at 21 airports, including the busiest in terms of air traffic, plus enroute and approach control, from five control centres: Barcelona, Madrid, Gran Canaria, Palma and Seville. In addition, ENAIRE provides communications, navigation and surveillance services to 45 air control towers.

In 2018 ENAIRE handled 2.1 million flights to and from four continents (Europe, America, Asia and Africa), transporting 300 million passengers.

ENAIRE is the fourth most important European air navigation service provider, and, in a clear commitment to the Single Sky initiative, belongs to international partnerships such as SESAR (Single European Sky ATM Research) Joint Undertaking, SESAR Deployment Manager, A6, iTEC, CANSO (Civil Air Navigation Services Organisation) and ICAO (International Civil Aviation Organization).