

ACI EUROPE

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April airport traffic confirms EU vs Non-EU performance gap

For immediate release

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Brussels, 4 June 2015: European airport trade body, ACI EUROPE today released its traffic report for **April**. The report is the only air transport report which includes all types of civil aviation passenger flights: full service, low cost and charter. It reveals that passenger traffic at Europe's airports grew by an average **+3.2%** during the month.

Reviewing the result in more detail, **passenger traffic** in the **EU** grew by a healthy **+3.9%**. Meanwhile, **Non-EU** airports posted a lower rate of passenger traffic growth (**+1.0%**), confirming a trend of nearly 6 months during which EU airports have outperformed Non-EU ones.

Freight traffic across the European airport network – an established bellwether of economic performance – reported just **+0.8%** growth. Finally, aircraft movements were up **+2.4%**, confirming the improvement registered in the previous month.

Olivier Jankovec, Director General of ACI EUROPE said "*Passenger traffic growth slowed in April compared to previous months with non-EU markets especially affected by the weakness of the Russian economy and the strikes of French Air Traffic Controllers also taking a toll on EU traffic. As a result, **42% of Europe's airports reported decreases in passenger traffic, up from 23% in March.***"

He added "*Nevertheless, the outlook remains positive, with economic growth picking up in the Eurozone and the positive impact of the ECB's stimulus programme becoming more apparent. Airlines have added more capacity for this summer season compared to last year and barring a dramatic twist in debt negotiations with Greece, the coming months should see continued passenger growth – and hopefully some improvement in freight figures.*"

During the month of **April**, airports welcoming more than 25 million passengers per year (Group 1), airports welcoming between 10 and 25 million passengers (Group 2), airports welcoming between 5 and 10 million passengers (Group 3) and airports welcoming less than 5 million passengers per year (Group 4) reported an average adjustment **+1.9%**, **+3.8%**, **+4.9%** and **+4.6%**.

The airports which reported the highest increases in passenger traffic are as follows:

GROUP 1: Madrid (**+8.9%**), Rome FCO (**+7.9%**), Frankfurt (**+7.5%**), Istanbul IST (**+6.2%**) and Munich (**+6.1%**)

GROUP 2: Athens (**+21.2%**), Istanbul SAW (**+14.6%**), London STN (**+10.7%**), Dublin (**+10.5%**) and Lisbon (**+10.3%**)

GROUP 3: Milan BGY (**+18.2%**), Glasgow (**+15.3%**), Porto (**+15.0%**), Bucharest OTP (**+13.4%**) and Budapest (**+10.8%**)

GROUP 4: Santorini/Thira JTR (**+62.9%**), Chisinau (**+34.8%**), Cluj (**+33.5%**), Sibiu (**+29.7%**) and Ponta Delgada (**+28.2%**)

The '**ACI EUROPE Airport Traffic Report – April 2015**' includes 206 airports in total representing more than 88% of European air passenger traffic.

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The ACI EUROPE Airport Traffic Report is a dedicated service for journalists available in the password protected 'Airport Traffic Report' section of the 'Media room' on our website www.aci-europe.org. Accredited members of the media may also access additional traffic analysis and comprehensive traffic databases. For your password to access these sections, please contact us by e-mail at: maria.karananou@aci-europe.org. Your request will be validated and the password will be e-mailed to your work address.

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ACI EUROPE is the European region of Airports Council International (ACI), the only worldwide professional association of airport operators. ACI EUROPE represents more than 460 airports in 45 European countries. In 2013, our member airports handled over 90% of commercial air traffic in Europe, welcoming more than 1.7 billion passengers, 16.8 million tonnes of freight and 20.8 million aircraft movements.

EVERY FLIGHT BEGINS AT THE AIRPORT.