

Europe's airports report passengers up 5%, freight up 3.9% during April

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For immediate release

11 June 2018

Brussels, 11 June 2018: European airport trade association ACI EUROPE today releases its traffic report for **April 2018**, during which average **passenger traffic** in geographical Europe grew by **+5%** compared with the same month last year.

As has occurred in previous months, the **non-EU market** led the growth dynamic, holding fast at **+10.4%**, on the back of Turkish airports increasing their passenger traffic by an impressive +13.9%. Gains were especially strong at airports in Georgia (+30.5%), Ukraine (+20.4%) as well as in the smaller markets of FYROM (+17.3%), Montenegro (+15.5%) and Albania (+11.5%).

Meanwhile, passenger traffic growth in the **EU market** increased by **+3.4%** - a notable deceleration compared with earlier months (Q1: +6.2%). This was mainly due to the combination of labour disruptions, the continued impact of the bankruptcies of Monarch and Air Berlin, stronger tourism demand to Turkey and Northern Africa impacting some EU leisure airports - as well as the Easter holiday period starting earlier (in March) when compared to last year.

Airports in the Eastern and Southern parts of the bloc along with Finland and Luxembourg significantly outperformed this average. Conversely, airports in the UK, France and Germany posted the weakest results. Accordingly, the following capital city airports all registered double-digit growth in passenger traffic: Tallinn (+32.4%), Bratislava (+26.9%), Ljubljana (+19.4%), Riga (+16.3%), Vilnius (+15.3%), Warsaw (+14.8%), Athens (13.7%), Budapest (+13.6%), Malta (+11.4%), Helsinki (+11.9%) and Luxembourg (+11.7%).

The Majors (top 5 European airports) saw passenger growth weakening to **+2.4%** compared to +9.6% in Q1. The Air France strikes had an impact on Paris-CDG (-3.5%) – so far, the airport has lost more than 700.000 passengers due to industrial action at the airline. There were also lower passenger numbers at London-Heathrow (-2.2%). Istanbul-Atatürk (+10.7%) kept posting the best performance amongst the league, followed by Frankfurt (+5.8%) and Amsterdam-Schiphol (+3.0%).

Overall, passenger growth was the most dynamic at **smaller & regional airports** (with less than 5 mppa: +7.6%), with examples including: Batumi (+63.3%), Rostov (+21.3%), Bodrum (+20.7%) and Kristiansund (+12.6%) in the non EU market, as well as Bourgas (+135.9%), Kefallinia (+78.6%), Poznan (+43.1%), Corfou (+38.2%), Ostend (+30.8%), Turku (+26.5%), Clermont-Ferrand (+28.6%), La Rochelle (+21.9%), Memmingerberg (+21.9%), Linz (+20.4%), Wroclaw (+17.2%), Genova (+15.8%) and Paphos (+15.2%) in the EU.

Freight traffic retained its recent robust growth trend during April at **+3.9%**. **Aircraft movements** were up **+4.3%** - increasing by +3.2% in the EU market and by +7.5% in the non-EU bloc.

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 **+4.1%**, **+5.1%**, **+6.4%** and **+7.6%**.

The airports that reported the highest increases in passenger traffic during April 2018 (compared with April 2017) are as follows:

GROUP 1: Antalya AYT (**+18.7%**), Moscow SVO (**+14.8%**), Istanbul SAW (**+11.7%**), Istanbul IST (**+10.7%**) and Lisbon (**+9.1%**)

GROUP 2: Ankara (**+30.1%**), Kiev (**+21.8%**), Moscow VKO (**+19.4%**), Warsaw WAW (**+14.8%**) and Athens (**+13.7%**)

GROUP 3: Naples (**+25.8%**), Seville (**+22.5%**), Krakow (**+19.2%**), Valencia (**+18.7%**) and Riga (**+16.3%**)

GROUP 4: Foggia (**+169.7%**), Bourgas (**+135.9%**), Kefallinia (**+78.6%**), Batumi (**+63.3%**) and Poznan (**+43.1%**)

The **ACI EUROPE Airport Traffic Report – April 2018** includes 243 airports in total representing more than 88% of European air passenger traffic.

ACI EUROPE's monthly Airport Traffic Report is unique in that it is the only one to include all types of airline passenger flights to, from and within Europe: full service, low cost, charter and others.

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Notes to Editors

Want more access to the latest airport traffic data? ACI EUROPE has developed a dedicated App providing just that. The App gives you all the usual key figures, but also enabling you to make customised comparison tables & graphs that can be downloaded and shared via email or social media. The App is available for iOS, Android and as a WebApp. To find out more, go to www.aci-europe.org/trafficapp

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: biljana.banjac@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 over **500 airports** in 45 European countries. Our members facilitate over 90% of commercial air traffic in Europe: **2 billion passengers, 20 million tonnes of freight** and **23.7 million aircraft movements** in 2016. These airports contribute to the employment of **12.3 million people**, generating **€675 billion** each year (**4.1%**) of GDP in Europe.*

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