



PRESIDENTA

Ursula von der Leyen
President
European Commission
Rue de la Loi / Wetstraat 200
1049 Brussels
Belgium

Madrid, 16 de octubre de 2020

Dear Ms Von Der Leyen,

First of all, I would like to send my best wishes to you and your team, especially to those affected by Covid19.

As the president of one of the most affected regions in Europe by this second wave of Covid19, I think we are all on time for improving one of the main corridors for this virus: Movements across countries, and especially airports.

As you may know, the incidence of the pandemic in our region was low until Madrid-Barajas was reopened in July. Since then, it has been slowly increasing until reaching its peak in September.

Our experts state that the Covid19 got into Spain through Madrid-Barajas. The Health Ministry of Madrid Region estimates that more than 700 cases have been imported via this airport since May. Most of them were asymptomatic, but our healthcare system identified 159 with a positive PCR, all of them showing symptoms that matched with Covid19 and had not been detected in the airport protocol. Almost 74% of the imported cases happened during July and August, when the Covid19 was controlled in Spain.

That is why I would like to ask you to consider a common regulation for the European air space regarding Covid19 control measures in line with the recommendations set up in the operational Covid – 19 Aviation Health Safety Protocol of the EASA and the ECD guidelines. To ensure the necessary public health conditions for all the European citizens, I think it is important that every airport, or at least the international ones, apply homogeneous protocols to prevent the pandemic expansion across frontiers.

Ensuring safety conditions in our frontiers is a concern for my Government because we are sure that it can help not only in managing the pandemic but also in reactivating the Spanish economy, the most affected by this crisis.

Please do not hesitate to contact me for this or any other issue in which the region of Madrid can help overcome this crisis.

Yours sincerely,

Isabel Díaz Ayuso
President of Madrid Region