

# ERA Regional Airline Conference 2023

## Sustainable Connectivity

The political and public pressure on our industry to decarbonise, and to become more environmentally sustainable, continues to increase. In addition to meeting regulatory targets and responding to consumer demand for transparency, maintaining connectivity as an important aspect of social and economic development is vital.

The ERA Regional Airline Conference will focus on three key elements of sustainable connectivity: environmental, economic and social, which all have an impact on various parts of the industry.

## Programme of Events

### Wednesday 29 March 2023

All functions take place in the hotel conference centre unless otherwise stated. The registration desk will be open from 08:00–17:30.

**08:30–09:30** **Airline and Airport CEOs' Breakfast** *by invitation only* Espace Mougins

**09:30–11:30** **Airline and Airport CEOs' Meeting** *by invitation only* Biot

**Moderator: Montserrat Barriga, Director General, ERA**

Including presentations from:

- José Ramón Bauzá, MEP
- Faye Malarkey Black, President and CEO, Regional Airline Association
- Elisabeth Kotthaus, Head of Unit for Social Affairs, Passenger Rights & Equal Opportunities, DG MOVE, European Commission

**The ERA Regional Airline Conference will start at 12 noon.**

**12:00–13:45** **Welcome buffet lunch** Le Riviera

**13:45–15:15** **Conference session 1 – environmental sustainability** Le Vallauris

Reducing emissions in Europe is a high priority on both the political and industry agendas, with specific targets in place for reducing emissions by both 2030 and 2050. Efforts are being made to align current legislation with these goals through initiatives such as Fit for 55, which aims to revise climate, energy, and transport-related laws in the EU. The aviation industry is also committed to meeting its own emissions reduction targets over the next three decades as highlighted in the industry initiative Destination 2050.

This session will highlight the work achieved so far, and the work still needed to reach net zero through four main pillars, including sustainable aviation fuels (SAFs), developments in new technologies, improvements in air traffic management and operations and smart economic measures. This session will include contributions from the following participants:

- Marilyn Bastin, Head of Aviation Sustainability, EUROCONTROL  
**(Moderator)**
- Africa Abajas, Head of Sustainable Aviation, Vertis Environmental Finance
- Maria Fiskerud, Innovation Eco-System Lead, Heart Aerospace
- Mariagrazia La Piscopia, Executive Director, SESAR Deployment Manager
- Anastasija Visnakova, Vice President Sales and Marketing, Deutsche Aircraft

**15:15–16:00** **Coffee break** Espace Mougins

**16:00–17:30** **Conference session 2 – economic sustainability** Le Vallauris

Balancing economic growth and development with the protection of natural and human resources is a vital combination to ensure that economies can continue to thrive in the long term. It is important to adopt policies and practices that



support economic growth; this may involve investing in infrastructure, supporting small to medium-sized enterprises and promoting responsible resource use and environmental protection. There are various factors that can impact economic sustainability within our industry, such as airline economics, inflation, fuel prices, taxonomy, industry debt and State Aid, EU261 developments and consumer demands. These issues will be the main focus of discussion in this session with contributions from the following participants:

- Marie Owens Thomsen, SVP Sustainability and Chief Economist IATA (**Moderator**)
- Giulia Mauri, Aviation Partner, Kadrant
- Professor Regula Dettling-Ott, Chair of the Performance Review Body
- Zuzana Hrnkova, Vice President Marketing, ATR
- Anna Wilson, Head of External Relations, SAS

18:30–20:00 **Cocktail reception**

Le Riviera

### Thursday 30 March 2023

All functions take place in the hotel conference centre unless otherwise stated. The registration desk will be open from 08:00–14:30.

#### 09:00–10:30 **Conference session 3 – social sustainability**

Le Vallauris

As an industry, aviation has a responsibility to meet the needs of its workers, passengers and communities in a way that promotes social sustainability. Providing connectivity to the regions, enabling the movement of people, and offering accessible and affordable air travel are all important elements of social sustainability in aviation. In addition, supporting fair employment practices and promoting diversity and inclusion are essential for creating a more inclusive and equitable industry. This session will cover social aspects of sustainability with contributions from the following participants:

- Sandrine de Saint Sauveur, President and CEO, APG Airlines (**Moderator**)
- Heather Gordon, Legal Director, Martyn Fiddler Aviation
- Elisabeth Kotthaus, Head of Unit for Social Affairs, Passenger Rights and Equal Opportunities, DG MOVE, European Commission
- Faye Malarkey Black, President and CEO, Regional Airline Association

10:30–11:15 **Coffee break**

Espace Mougins

#### 11:15–12:30 **Conference session 4 – inspirational speaker**

Le Vallauris

##### **The neuroscience of navigating uncertainty**

ERA is excited to announce that this year's inspirational speaker will be world-renowned applied neuroscience psychologist **Helena Boschi**. As we all navigate ongoing uncertainty, how can we as business professionals understand how best to deal with what is coming next?



This session will consider the psychological impact of change – in particular what has happened during the last three years – on our cognitive and emotional systems. Helena will draw on the work from psychologists, neuroscientists and behavioural scientists to provide a comprehensive and fascinating insight into the brain's structure and function, and explain how the human brain is designed to cope with change and stress in an unpredictable landscape. She will offer some simple and practical strategies to handle the future and how to get the best out of our own and others' brainpower.

12:30–14:00 **Networking buffet lunch**

Espace Mougins

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