

French Business Aviation Under Threat: EBAA France Warns of Unprecedented Industrial and Competitive Decline

EBAA France once again warns of the dramatic consequences of the fiscal policies implemented since 2025. French business aviation is now being targeted for symbolic reasons, with no consideration for its impact on the economy, regional employment, and France's sovereignty.

Reducing this sector to the caricature of a mere “luxury transport” is, at best, ignorant: business aviation accounts for more than 80% of professional travel, generates €32.1 billion in economic output, and supports over 101,500 direct and indirect jobs across the country.



A Vital Sector for Regional and Business Development

Business aviation connects decision-making centers every day with factories, R&D laboratories, and employment hubs across the regions. It is an essential link in regional planning: **262 local airports** are currently served by business aviation, compared with only about one hundred served by commercial airlines.

This network **supports non-relocatable jobs** — pilots, maintenance technicians, logisticians, airport and catering staff, and medical personnel. For example, **Le Bourget Airport alone accounts for more than 3,500 direct jobs and 10,000 indirect jobs.**

Punitive and Counterproductive Taxation

The sharp increase in the solidarity tax applied to business aviation passengers, which came into effect in March 2025, has made France one of the most heavily taxed countries in the world in this segment.

Business aviation does not refuse to contribute to the national effort — it always has and will continue to do so. What the sector contests is a system that is **unfair in its design, unbalanced in its application, and ineffective in its outcomes**.

EBAA France therefore calls for a reality check: **the tax increase has not generated the expected revenue**. Of the €150 million initially projected, only a few tens of millions at best are likely to be collected. There are two main reasons for this: **the tax is self-declared**, meaning it is **primarily French operators who bear the burden**, while foreign companies largely escape it; and **over-taxation has caused a contraction in the activity** of French operators, mechanically reducing tax revenues.

As a result, **the activity of French companies fell by 21.8%** in the third quarter of 2025, while that of **foreign operators increased by 4%**, creating a major competitive distortion. In practice, it is foreign competitors who benefit from this situation — capturing French demand without contributing to national taxes, employment in France, or the local industrial ecosystem — all without any environmental gain.

The net effect is therefore **a loss for the State, for businesses in the sector, and for national sovereignty**. This fiscal mechanism, presented as virtuous, produces the opposite of the intended effect: **it destroys the French flag carriers, weakens non-relocatable jobs, drains rare expertise, hinders the ecological transition, and undermines an industry** in which France was not only a pioneer but also a recognized global leader.

2026 Finance Bill: EBAA France's Requests

As part of the 2026 Budget discussions, EBAA France is putting forward clear demands:

1. **A reduction in the solidarity tax rate** applied to business aviation, in order to align it with the rate applied to business and first-class passengers on regular commercial flights.
2. **The establishment of fair collection mechanisms** ensuring that all operators — both French and foreign — contribute equally.
3. **The allocation of tax revenues to the sector's decarbonization efforts**, the only way to ensure that the industry can continue its environmental transition

[2025 yearbook](#): key facts and figures about french Business Aviation

About EBAA France – European Business Aviation Association France

EBAA France – the European Business Aviation Association – represents business aviation stakeholders and promotes their activities. The association brings together business aviation operators, whether private individuals or commercial companies that make aircraft (planes or helicopters) available to businesses.

EBAA France also includes air charter brokers serving the on-demand flight market, as well as all entities involved in ensuring flight operations, such as ground handling companies, fuel suppliers, insurers, and financial institutions.

Its members further include airport and aerodrome managers, crew and technician training centers, manufacturers, maintenance companies, and, of course, associated professions and their subcontractors.

More information: <https://ebaafrance.org> and EBAA France on LinkedIn