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# IFALPA pilots declare full support for BA pilots in ‘Open Skies’ dispute

MEXICO CITY 21 April: The International Federation of Air Line Pilots’ Associations (IFALPA) meeting today at its Annual Conference in Mexico City offered its full support to the British Airways pilots in their dispute with British Airways (BA). The airline is starting up a separate subsidiary carrier “OpenSkies” to fly from Brussels and Paris to New York which will use BA money and BA aircraft but not BA pilots. This action not only denies career opportunities but also represents a threat to job security, wages and working conditions for British Airways pilots.

The 340 delegates to the Conference, who represent over 100,000 professional pilots in more than 100 countries worldwide, unanimously voted to fully support the British Airways pilots and condemned British Airways both for seeking to use anti competitive legislation to frustrate a union’s legitimate aim of protecting its members interests by the taking of industrial action, and for its failure to settle this dispute through the negotiation of a fair solution that protects the interests of the British Airways pilots.

## *Notes to Editors*

*The International Federation of Air Line Pilots’ Associations represents in excess of 100,000 pilots in more than 100 countries world-wide. The mission of IFALPA is to be the global voice of airline pilots, promoting the highest level of aviation safety and security world-wide and providing services, support and representation to all of its Member Associations. See the Federation website [www.ifalpa.org](http://www.ifalpa.org)*

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