Addressing Barriers to Airport Development The Sweep of History

> Andrew Charlton Isle of Man June 2014

# The Chicago Convention 1944

- The 'bedrock' of international aviation
  - 75 years young
- Provides for national regulation
  - Safety; Access; Licencing; ATM
  - Airport operations and airport charging
    - Noise
    - Access
    - Funding
- Assumes State-owned aviation systems
  - Dominance of flag carriers
  - No understanding of modern aviation imperatives
- The world has moved on...

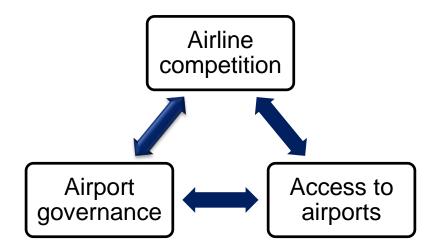
# Changing Views on Competition in Aviation

- Value Chain
  - Traditional view
  - Aviation is a life support for airlines
  - Driven by Chicago Convention governance
- Eco-System
  - Modern, liberalising view
  - Each part separately adding value

## The choice of vision drives policy choices

## Airlines, Airports, Slots

- Competition is agreed to generate good economic outcomes
- Competition requires competitors
  - Policy determines number of airlines/airports
  - Ability of airports to compete increases options
  - Access to airports key to how airlines compete
    - Slot rules control access
- These are policy choices for regulators



## Airport Growth and Slots

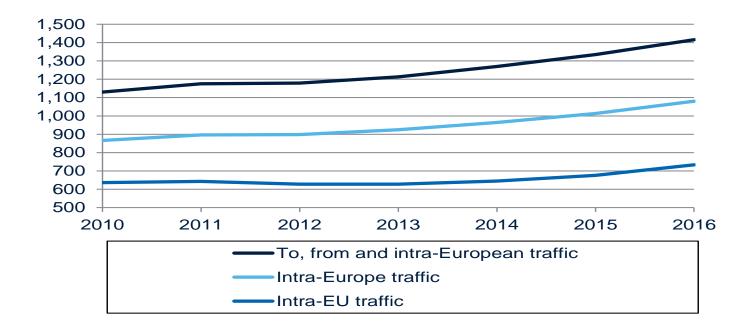
- Slots are a system to allocate access at a specific time to limited infrastructure
  - Runways
  - Terminals
  - Airspace
- No need for slot rules if there was unlimited space
  - Airports
  - ATC procedures
- Once, rule was first-come, first-served
- Airlines schedule to meet market demands, not capacity availability peak hour congestion
- Situation getting worse

# Aviation and Competition

- Modern aviation dates from 1944
- First half century was controlled by States
  - Under the Chicago Convention
  - Dominance of concept of national sovereignty
  - Linked to national interests generally
  - Little or no competition
- More recently, we have seen liberalisation
  - First in the US, domestically; then Europe, domestically
  - Now open skies agreements being agreed
  - Becoming a 'normal' industry, subject to normal rules
  - Increasingly open and competitive
  - Incumbents/vested interests resist this change

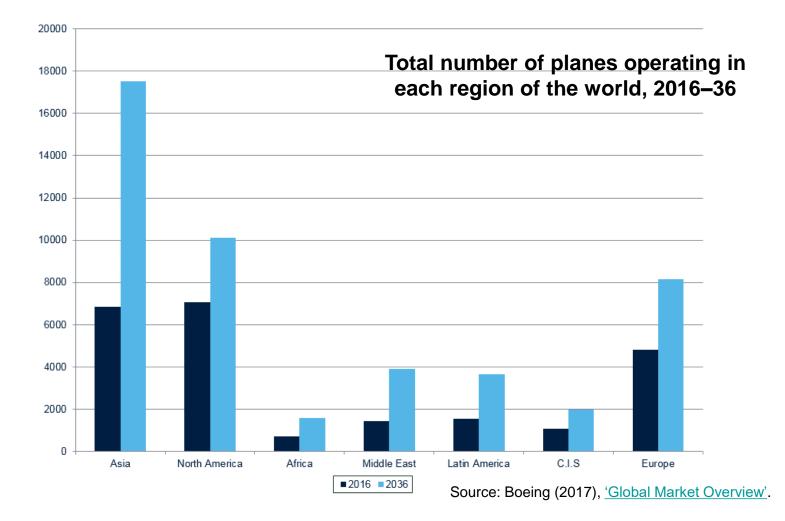
### **Economic Imperative**

- Passenger growth continues to expand
  - Passenger numbers to double by 2030
  - In Asia, to double by 2025
- Putting huge strain on existing infrastructure

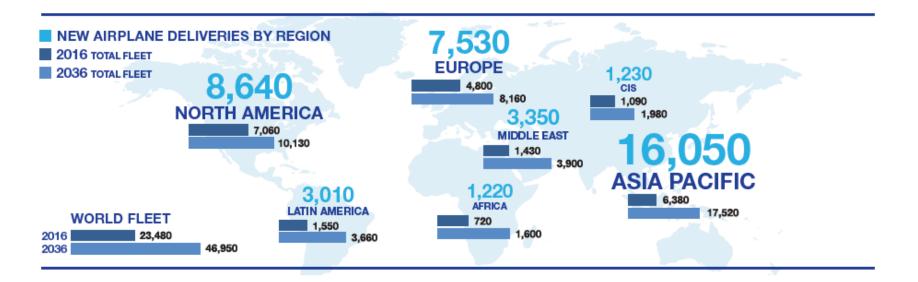


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### **Global Growth**



### Growth by Aircraft Type





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# Worldwide Slot Guidelines

- Committee determines total number of slots available
  - By season (summer and winter)
  - Time-based
- Allocate slots in accordance with agreed criteria
  - Grandfather rights
  - 'Use it or lose it'
  - Unused slots go into a pool for reallocation
  - Reallocation on a 'waiting list' principle
  - Slots can be traded within the airport on a one-for-one basis
- Twice annual slot coordination conferences
- Airline operations need a 'pair' of slots to operate
  - Landing
  - Take off

## Why Slots Matter

### Top 10 Revenue Routes Apr'17 – Mar'18



Airline Name	Market Pair Code	Total Revenue (US\$)	Scheduled Hours	Revenue Per Hour (US\$)
British Airways	JFK–LHR	1,037,724,867	42,117	24,639
Qantas Airways	MEL-SYD	854,692,402	35,264	24,237
Emirates	LHR–DXB	819,409,702	32,378	25,308
Singapore Airlines	LHR-SIN	709,730,107	38,883	18,253
American Airlines	LAX–JFK	698,074,171	50,581	13,801
United Airlines	SFO-EWR	687,674,312	56,693	12,130
Cathay Pacific Airways	HKG–LHR	631,855,868	44,206	14,294
Qatar Airways	LHR-DOH	552,658,316	31,264	17,677
Air Canada	YVR-YYZ	552,264,972	48,253	11,445
Singapore Airlines	SYD-SIN	543,723,893	27,847	19,525
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Source OAG schedules analyser OAG traffic analyser

oag.com

### ...Hence Trading



London Heathrow – slot transfers

Source: House of Commons library



### **Options for Reform**

- Aim must be to encourage efficiency, fairness
- Economic allocation of resources to fund new capacity
- Able to encourage growth and innovation
  - Primary Auctions?
  - Secondary Trading?
  - Congestion pricing?
  - No swaps >30 mins?

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