



ANNIVERSARY INTERIM STATEMENT

7 September 2026, No. 1A-317

The safety investigation is conducted in accordance with Annex 13 Aircraft Accident and Incident Investigation to the Convention on International Civil Aviation and Regulation (EU) No 996/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 October 2010 on the investigation and prevention of accidents and incidents in civil aviation and repealing Directive 94/56/EC. The purpose of the safety investigation is to prevent the occurrence of accidents and incidents in the future, rather than establish blame or liability. The safety investigation is conducted independently of any judicial or administrative proceedings, to apportion blame or liability, are not related to them, and have no impact thereupon.

Occurrence type	Serious incident	
Date and time of the occurrence	8 September 2025 at 18:31 LT	
Place of the occurrence	Vingis park, Vilnius, Lithuania	
Aircraft type	Hot air balloon Kubiček BB78Z	Hot air balloon Cameron Heart 170
Registration	LY-KIS	LY-OHA
Serial number	2103	12658
Year of manufacture	2022	2024
The captain (PIC)	33-year-old	47-year-old
PIC licence type	Balloon Pilot Licence (BPL)	Balloon Pilot Licence (BPL)
PIC flight experience	1602:25 flight hours	228:25 flight hours
Type or the flight	Commercial passenger flight	Commercial passenger flight
Persons in the aircraft	Crew – 1 Passengers – 11	Crew – 1 Passengers – 6
Injuries to persons	None	Passengers – 1 (minor)
Aircraft damage	None	Minor damage to the hot air balloon envelope
Other damage	None	None

Safety investigation

On 8 September 2025, a group of hot-air balloons was being prepared for a group flight from the Vingis park. After the take-off, the hot air balloon Kubiček BB78Z, registration LY-KIS, struck the envelope of a nearby hot air balloon Cameron Heart-170, registration LY-OHA, damaging it. After the impact, the hot air balloon LY-OHA was briefly lifted off the ground. One passenger suffered minor injuries.

In a few days, it will be the first anniversary of this serious incident. A safety investigation into this serious incident is being conducted in cooperation with the Air Accidents Investigation Branch of the United Kingdom, representing the state of the design and manufacture for the hot air balloon Cameron Heart-170.

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In accordance with Article 16(7) of Regulation (EU) No 996/2010, if the final report cannot be made public within 12 months, the safety investigation authority shall release an interim statement at least at each anniversary of the serious incident. Approaching the anniversary of the serious incident, the safety investigation still continues.

The draft safety investigation report is currently being prepared and, once completed, will be sent to the relevant states and parties for their comments. The final report will then be published on the SID website.