

**Question for written answer E-007537/2014
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Julie Girling (ECR)

Subject: Continued refusal to accept the European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) in Spain

In its reply to Written Question E-010736/2013, the Commission references an agreement adopted by the Interterritorial Council of the Spanish National Health System to ensure access to healthcare in Spain for all European citizens. This agreement was adopted in response to the Commission's letter of formal notice sent in May 2013, and at the time of the aforementioned reply the Commission was assessing the agreement and its implementation in practice by Spanish health providers.

I have since received a number of reports from my constituents who have encountered problems accessing healthcare in Spain with the European Health Insurance Card (EHIC). In each case, the EHIC was refused, and the constituents were told to seek private care.

1. These continued infringements demonstrate that evidently the agreement referenced above is not being implemented. Can the Commission confirm the status of its assessment of the agreement, and state what further action will be taken in the event that this assessment is negative?
2. Can the Commission also state what options, if any, are available to citizens who wish to seek financial compensation for private health costs incurred following a refusal to accept the EHIC?