

**Question for written answer E-008376/2014  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Health status of the Roma population in the EU Member States

The Commission recently published a report on the health status of the Roma population in the EU Member States. The report notes that the Roma population suffers from discrimination, violence and social exclusion – aspects that have a negative impact on this minority's health status.

International agencies have given greater attention and considerable support to these minority groups in recent years, with the aim of protecting their health and well-being.

The report also points out that around 20% of Roma respondents were not covered by medical insurance or did not know if they were covered, and 66% said that they could not afford prescription drugs compared to 29% of the majority population.

Bearing in mind that the European Union has an obligation to take account of the need to protect human health in all its policies, how does the Commission intend to implement the recommendations made in this report, with particular regard to:

1. Encouraging the development of programmes in the Member States aimed at securing a healthier lifestyle for the Roma population;
2. Encouraging research aimed at identifying the key obstacles in improving the health status of the Roma population;
3. Improving the Roma population's access to medical treatment and health services that are compatible with the Roma lifestyle?