

**Question for written answer E-010030/2014
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Ulla Tørnæs (ALDE)

Subject: Alcohol related harm

As the Commission is likely to be aware, the week beginning 24 November 2014 is the second annual Awareness Week on Alcohol Related Harm. One key concern is that, although alcohol dependence affects 14.6 million people in the EU, only 15 % are diagnosed and only 8 % of alcohol-dependent Europeans receive treatment. Evidence shows that extending treatment coverage of alcohol dependence to 40 % across the EU would save 12 000 deaths within 12 months. In line with this, the recent EU Action Plan on Youth Drinking and on Heavy Episodic Drinking recommends that, at the level of national responsibility, improving screening and treatment as well as healthcare services can be a means to curbing alcohol related harm and narrowing the severe treatment gaps that persist across the EU.

Could the Commission clarify whether, and if so how, it will follow up on the implementation of measures within healthcare services such as increased screening and treatment at national levels, on a basis of respect for the subsidiarity principle?