

**Question for written answer E-010379/2014
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Inês Cristina Zuber (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Portuguese households are spending more and more on healthcare

According to the report entitled 'Health at a Glance - Europe 2014' Portuguese households are spending more and more on healthcare. Overall State spending on healthcare in Portugal has been dropping sharply: as a percentage of GDP it fell by 9.5 % in 2012, to below pre-2005 levels. Meanwhile, between 2007 and 2012 household spending on healthcare in Portugal increased more than anywhere else in Europe, and in 2012 it accounted for 4.7 % of total outlay on goods and services, almost twice the EU average. In absolute terms, in 2012 each Portuguese citizen spent EUR 1854 on healthcare, in a country where the minimum wage is EUR 505 and the average wage is EUR 984.

These figures spell out the impact of the measures being taken under the 'Memorandum of Understanding' imposed on the Portuguese people by the Troika and implemented by the PSD and CDS-PP coalition government.

Does the Commission regard these figures as consistent with the objectives outlined, for example, in its health strategy, in particular those concerning the promotion of health in an ageing Europe and the protection of the public against health risks?