

**Question for written answer E-001228/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Alessia Maria Mosca (S&D)

Subject: Worrying state of Italian healthcare

Vytenis Andriukaitis, Commissioner with responsibility for health, recently presented the Euro Health Consumer Index, whose rankings show that, although in many Member States there has been a slight drop in healthcare expenditure, overall performance is steadily improving. Italy, however, has been bringing up the rear since the first survey: although the study acknowledges the country's excellence in some areas, it highlights the need for structural reforms.

Given that health policies and healthcare systems within the EU are becoming increasingly interdependent (patients can now receive medical treatment in any EU country), can the Commission say:

- what recommendations it will make to countries such as Italy with regard to the structural reforms most urgently needed in order to meet patients' needs and improve healthcare standards in general;
- whether there is a danger that the current regionalisation of the Italian public health service will widen the gap between north and south, making it difficult to provide a uniform service across the country;
- what steps it will take over the coming months with a view to establishing clear rules and providing reliable information regarding healthcare in other Member States in order to put an end to years of legal uncertainty, for the benefit of patients all over the EU?