Question for written answer E-003821/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Ivan Jakovčić (ALDE)

Subject: Preventive medicine

To reduce the problem of high youth unemployment in Member States the European Commission has opted for a model of investment in young people on the principle 'invest 2 euros today to save 4 euros tomorrow'. This policy has already yielded results as the trend of youth unemployment at EU level is in decline.

Introduction of a 'Preventive Health' model which permanently educates citizens and introduces an annual physical examination, all for the sake of prevention and early detection of health problems, may initially raise the cost of healthcare but would certainly result in raising the quality of healthcare services and, in the long-term, a reduction of healthcare costs. Prevention and earlier detection of medical problems would reduce treatment periods and minimise future problems, thereby reducing the cost of healthcare.

Has the Commission in its work considered models and carried out research that goes towards preventive action in healthcare?

Are there Commission programmes which could co-finance similar projects in Member States?