

**Question for written answer E-004317/2015  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Ádám Kósa (PPE), Richard Howitt (S&D), Frédérique Ries (ALDE) and Helga Stevens (ECR)**

Subject: Tackling multiple sclerosis (MS) in Europe

Multiple sclerosis (MS) is the most common neurodegenerative disease – some 600 000 people suffer from it in Europe alone. The causes of MS are still unknown and the consequences both for society and for the people affected are enormous. When the disease is not well managed, patients diagnosed with MS are often obliged to leave their workplace and are not in control of their disease.

Since 2014, a multi-stakeholder colloquium has existed to stimulate the debate, exploring opportunities and challenges for improving the management of MS. Following the first colloquium, a call for action was published with several recommendations and possible next steps. A second edition of the colloquium will be held in Brussels in May 2015.

Moreover, Parliament adopted in 2012 a written declaration supported by more than 400 MEPs calling for equal access to quality care, better and increased comparative research and a reflection process on chronic diseases, with a specific focus on MS.

What actions, if any, have been taken by the Commission in the contexts of the call for action paper of the multi-stakeholder colloquium and of Parliament's written declaration?

What is its strategy for prevention and research and for better management of MS and of neurodegenerative diseases in general?