

**Question for written answer E-014018/2015/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Lorenzo Fontana (ENF)

Subject: Compulsory vaccinations in schools

Given the focus that the EU quite rightly puts on prevention and health protection, careful thought needs to be given to an issue that is currently being hotly debated – the possible dangerous correlation between the vaccination of children and the emergence of diseases linked to such vaccines.

In 2014, the Italian National Institute of Health reported a significant decline in the number of vaccinated children. It is a voluntary decline on the part of citizens, to which the authorities wish to respond by taking decisive measures, such as making vaccination compulsory for children who attend school. This type of measure would, however, be in stark contrast with the free and conscious choices, which are often sensible, well-documented and never taken lightly, of families who, without wishing to be alarmist, prefer not to vaccinate their children.

The right to education is a right enshrined in the Italian Constitution (Article 34) and the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union mentions it among the key human rights (Article 14). Therefore, the above-mentioned measure would discriminate heavily against those families who, following their consciences, have decided not to subject their children to certain vaccines.

In view of the above, will the Commission not consider and compare the research, data and practices in existing legislation in the Member States, to ascertain whether the plan to make vaccination compulsory for children attending schools does not run counter to the original spirit of the EU treaties, according to which the right to education has repeatedly been declared to be a basic right?