

**Question for written answer E-008557/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Alain Cadec (PPE)

Subject: Accredited healthcare networks

In France, supplementary health insurance providers (*mutuelles*) are grouped together in healthcare platforms. These health platforms in turn set up accredited healthcare networks, made up of practitioners (doctors, dentists, ophthalmologists, etc.) and professionals (pharmacists, opticians, etc.). Insured persons are therefore required to consult healthcare practitioners and professionals who are part of the healthcare network accredited by their supplementary health insurance providers if they wish to secure maximum reimbursement. The amount reimbursed thus differs depending on whether the professional or the practitioner consulted is part of the accredited network or not. Under French law, any professional or practitioner who meets a set of objective, transparent and non-discriminatory criteria can join an accredited network. Only accredited networks of opticians-ophthalmologists can impose a ceiling on the number of members they accept.

Do these accredited healthcare networks not breach EU law by posing an obstacle to free competition?