

Question for written answer E-006659/2017
to the Commission
Rule 130
Jana Žitňanská (ECR)

Subject: Support for informal carers

In the framework of the budgetary procedure for 2018, I submitted an amendment which proposed EUR 1 600 000 in commitments and EUR 800 000 in payments to support a pilot project aiming at improving informal carers' access to the labour market through recognition of the skills they have acquired during periods of care of a person close to them. The project had a specific focus on parents and carers of children with disabilities. In the course of its assessment, this project admittedly was attributed category B status, but in the end it did not get through the vote of the European Parliament's Committee on Budgets. I nevertheless consider the situation of informal carers in the European Union to be alarming, and according to the representative of the Office of Commissioner Thyssen, who attended the conference on 19 October 2017 on the informal care of cancer patients, the Commission also recognises the seriousness of this situation.

In this context, I would therefore like to ask the following questions:

1. Does the Commission intend to take account of the recommendations that come out of the White Paper on the informal care of cancer patients, which was presented in the European Parliament during this conference (definition of informal carers, flexibility in employment)?
2. Does the Commission plan, in the context of the above project which it evaluated positively but which was not approved by the European Parliament's Committee on Budgets, to itself put in place tools to identify and recognise the skills that have been acquired by informal carers in order to facilitate their re-entry into the labour market?