

**Question for written answer P-005975/2017
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Notis Marias (ECR)

Subject: Legal status of podiatrists in Greece

Podiatry is a specialised branch of medicine devoted to the study, diagnosis, prevention and treatment of disorders of the lower extremities and finding effective solutions for those suffering from such disorders, which fills a need in the social services sector. Unfortunately, however, the rights of podiatrists, whose innovative skills are required in the treatment of disorders affecting the lower extremities, have not been properly established in Greece,

unlike other EU countries, such as Germany, France and Italy, where they belong to a legally recognised profession.

It is imperative for them to be given the same recognition in Greece also if they are to be able to address properly the problems afflicting their patients.

The Greek Association of Podiatrists, which came into being in 2002, has 10 members who are graduates of a number of different establishments specialised in the field, including the National College of Podiatrists established in 2004.

In view of this:

What action will it take to encourage the national authorities, in cooperation with the Greek Association of Podiatrists, to finally recognise the professional status and rights of practitioners in Greece?

