

WRITTEN QUESTION E-4039/03  
by Christos Folias (PPE-DE)  
to the Commission

Subject: Optometry in Greece

The Greek Parliament recently voted to amend and complete legislation on the National Health Service and to regulate other matters falling within the remit of the Ministry of Health and Welfare concerning the activities of establishments selling optical products. Among other measures this legislation prohibits opticians from practising optometry and allows pharmacists to sell presbyopic lenses and solutions for contact lenses.

Is this provision banning opticians from practising optometry and permitting pharmacists to do so in line with EU legislation?

Does the EU have rules determining which optical products may be sold exclusively by opticians?

Will the Commission say which authorities at Greek prefectural level are responsible for imposing the sanctions provided by the law on opticians operating illegally?