

**Question for written answer E-010584/2012  
to the Commission**

Rule 117

**Vito Bonsignore (PPE)**

Subject: Incident on the Frecciarosa train in Italy

In the afternoon of Thursday 18 November, a passenger on the 16.37 high-speed Turin-Rome train, *Frecciarossa*, had a heart attack. According to preliminary reports, the victim felt ill at the beginning of the journey. The conductor, alerted to the emergency at 17.03, apparently attempted to administer first aid with an on-board kit containing material for superficial medication, not including a defibrillator.

The first emergency stop was made in Rho, a few minutes before the normal stop at Milan Central Station and over 40 minutes from the declaration of emergency. This delay was fatal to the passenger.

Can the Commission therefore answer the following questions:

1. In its view, is the right to a minimum level of health protection and prevention of emergencies not included among the fundamental rights of passengers in all modes of transport, mentioned in the recent report adopted by Parliament (P7\_TA (2012/0371))?
2. Does it not agree that, in this respect, the operating protocols of high-speed long-distance trains, or those on main routes, should be similar to those for the same routes in the aviation sector, since the latter mode of transport explicitly competes for the same market segments?
3. In particular, should it not be compulsory for the carriers in question to be equipped with defibrillators, and should on-board staff not be trained to carry out initial emergency procedures? What urgent measures can be taken to prevent such emergencies from recurring, pending an adjustment of the relevant rules and operating protocols?