

**Question for written answer E-011096/2013
to the Commission
Rule 117
Jiří Maštálka (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: How to support organ donation in Europe

Over the past decades organ transplantation has increased and has become a more and more widespread form of treatment, which is necessary for treating certain diseases and often has positive results in terms of the number of years gained and the improvement in quality of life it engenders. In some cases, transplantation is the only possibility for saving a person's life.

However, the Member States are facing a serious shortage of organ donors and at the same time there is an increase in the demand for organs. Every day 12 patients on waiting lists for organ transplants in the EU die because of a lack of suitable organs.

Bearing in mind that organ donation and transplantation are sensitive topics, which are dealt with in different ways throughout the EU according to the different cultural values and legal, administrative and organisation arrangements of each Member State, how can the Commission make organ transplantation systems more efficient and accessible?

How does the Commission support equal access to transplantation?

Does the Commission intend to support the training and employment of health professionals involved in the identification of potential organ donors and the organ donation process?

What concrete measures has the Commission adopted to encourage Member States to work together to establish efficient systems aimed at identifying individuals who would be willing to donate their organs once deceased?

Do these measures include non-EU countries, for example, those from the former Soviet Union?