

**Question for written answer E-011221/2013
to the Commission**

Rule 117

Claudiu Ciprian Tănăsescu (S&D)

Subject: 112 emergency number

According to Article 26 of Directive 2009/136/EC, speech-, hearing- or visually-impaired citizens must enjoy equivalent access to 112 services. Recent technologies (like Next Generation 112) aim to make 112 services accessible by means other than voice calls, e.g. by allowing calls using sign language or text relay. Parliament has stressed the need to develop these capacities in the past¹. However, according to the latest report from the Communications Committee (COCOM), calling 112 by means other than voice communication is possible in only 12 out of 28 Member States. Implementation of the 112 emergency number is the responsibility of the Member States, but the Commission is also partly responsible in this field as guardian of the Treaties.

When will the Commission provide Parliament with a detailed plan for developing and spreading alternative means of reaching the emergency services through 112?

¹ cf. European Parliament resolution of 5 July 2011 on universal service and the 112 emergency number; Written Declaration 0035/2011 of 12 September 2011.