

**Question for written answer E-011367/2013
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Pat the Cope Gallagher (ALDE)

Subject: European Health Insurance Card holders in Ireland

At present, only two out of five Europeans carry a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC). For a country such as Ireland, it is very important that citizens obtain an EHIC in order to facilitate medical treatment when going on holiday, working or studying abroad. For example, in the 2011-2012 period a total of 1 963 students from Irish universities participated in the Erasmus programme, studying in other universities throughout Europe. In addition, over 50 000 Irish people emigrated during 2012, with many of these immigrants travelling to other places within the EU.

- Can the Commission confirm, both in percentage and numerical terms, how many Irish citizens carried an EHIC in 2012?
- How does this figure compare to the number of EHIC holders in other Member States?