

**Question for written answer E-012363/2013
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Liam Aylward (ALDE)

Subject: Combating meningitis in Europe

Meningitis is a devastating disease that strikes young and old. It is often difficult to diagnose and the disease can kill within 24 hours. Meningitis survivors often face permanent disabilities such as brain damage, hearing loss and impairment. Young children are most at risk. Meningitis is the leading cause of death among children in Ireland under five years of age.

Could the Commission provide statistics on meningitis rates in the EU? Could the Commission provide data on the European research programmes on meningitis and on similar programmes being funded by the EU and on what has been learned to date by these programmes?

What has the Commission done to date to tackle the spread of meningitis in the EU? Could the Commission provide information on the funding that is available from the EU to tackle meningitis in Europe and on the funding that is available for survivors of meningitis who have been left disabled?