

**Question for written answer E-013116/2013
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Edite Estrela (S&D)

Subject: Delay in transposing the directive on cross-border healthcare in Portugal

The deadline for transposing the directive on cross-border healthcare expired on 25 October 2013.

Although the deadline has passed, the Portuguese Government only submitted the preliminary draft law to transpose the aforementioned directive for public consultation on the date that the directive should have been transposed into Portuguese legislation. The consultation will run until 25 November 2013.

This delay in the transposition process, which the Portuguese Government started late, means that Portuguese citizens will only be able to benefit from the new rules on mobility under EU law from 2014.

What action will the Commission take to find out from the Portuguese Government what grounds there are to justify the delay and the failure to comply with the deadlines for transposing the directive on cross-border healthcare in Portugal?

What does the Commission think of the possibility of Portuguese patients being unable to exercise their rights fully with regard to access to cross-border healthcare and being reimbursed for it?