

**Question for written answer E-014467/2013
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Georgios Papanikolaou (PPE)

Subject: Extremely high cost of medicines in Cyprus

In her annual report for 2012, Cyprus's Auditor General concludes that the system for calculating the price of medicines in Cyprus has many shortcomings. As a result, medicines appear to cost much more in that country than in other EU Member States. I myself have noted that certain widely used medicines in Cyprus cost more than twice as much as elsewhere in the EU, while prices are comparatively very high in general.

1. Is the Commission monitoring the prices of medicines in the EU and can it provide comparative data regarding the situation in Member States other than Cyprus?
2. Does it believe that, despite its specific features, the EU pharmaceuticals sector operates in a satisfactory manner, safeguarding the interests of European consumers?
3. Can it help the Cyprus Government to develop and implement a more efficient system for calculating the price of medicines, in order to minimise the significant disparities between the Member States?