Question for written answer E-001746/2019
to the Commission
Rule 130
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Subject: Horizon Europe and mental health research follow-up

In its reply to our Question E-000551/2019 addressing the obvious need for the EU to invest more in research to identify the best possible measures to promote mental health and to address mental ill health in all its aspects, making use of the recommendations of the Roadmap for Mental Health Research in Europe (ROAMER) project, the Commission states that ‘many of ROAMER’s recommendations are in line with the Horizon 2020 call topics’, and that a sizeable part of previous EU research budgets has already been spent on mental health, under the seventh framework programme and Horizon 2020.

While we warmly welcome the Commission’s efforts until now, this answer does not provide any indication of the Commission’s recognition of the urgency of investing in future mental health research in a targeted and meaningful way.

In view of the above, can the Commission:

– guarantee that the health cluster foreseen under Pillar 2 of Horizon Europe will actually earmark specific resources for mental health research, rather than merely be ‘inherently accessible for mental health research by the open nature of call topics’;

– guarantee that stakeholders will be formally and meaningfully involved in the priority setting of future EU-funded research addressing mental health, and explain how this will be done?