

**Question for written answer E-003717/2019  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Daniel Buda (PPE)**

Subject: Demographic decline

The latest Eurostat data indicates a pronounced demographic decline in Romania, whose population has fallen by 6 % in just one year and which also has a poor track record regarding avoidable fatalities, with the highest figures in the European Union. Last year, its mortality rate per thousand was 13.3, compared with a birthrate of 9.7, prompting experts to issue warnings of further demographic decline,

an alarming trend that unfortunately appears set to continue, having become systemically embedded. The number of deaths is expected to remain very high at 260 000, with no hope of improvement in this trend. To make matters worse, the avoidable death rate for people under the age of 75 is higher in Romania than in any other European country,

heart failure, strokes and breast cancer being the most common causes at EU level.

In view of this:

What measures would the Commission recommend and what funding instruments could it deploy to ensure more effective preventive action by Romania to halt the decline in population and the erosion of the age pyramid?