

**Question for written answer E-002030/2020/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Frédérique Ries (Renew)

Subject: Health situation in the Tindouf camps, in particular linked to the spread of COVID-19

The world-wide COVID-19 pandemic has not spared the Tindouf camps, in Algeria, where two cases were reported at the beginning of March ¹.

According to information from the camps, health conditions are deplorable and the basic equipment needed to treat those contaminated by the virus is lacking. Sahrawis returning from Mauritania are being confined in isolation rooms under deplorable conditions.

Responsibility for the protection of the Sahrawi populations in this emergency situation rests with the host country, Algeria.

In view of this:

1. Is the Commission aware of the alarming health situation and what information does it have regarding the propagation of the COVID-19 virus in the Tindouf camps?
2. Has it broached the matter with the Algerian authorities?
3. What steps can the Commission take to ensure that the authorities guarantee the safety of populations in the Tindouf camps and their protection against COVID-19, given the adequacies of the healthcare facilities currently available there?

¹ <http://sahel-intelligence.com/19324-coronavirus-un-deuxieme-cas-dans-les-camps-de-tindouf.html>