

**Question for written answer E-002054/2020  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Domènec Ruiz Devesa (S&D), Javi López (S&D), César Luena (S&D)**

Subject: The EU's response to coronavirus

Given the scale and the cross-border nature of the coronavirus pandemic, an effective response cannot be sufficiently achieved by the Member States alone. Action is therefore required at EU level. Article 168 (5) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, stipulates that the European Parliament and the Council may adopt legislation to protect and improve human health, and in particular, to combat major cross-border pandemics acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure. This offers a legal base for launching the badly needed health union (and also acts as part of the social pillar of European integration).

Is the Commission ready to put forward a proposal for a regulation to fight the coronavirus pandemic under the above-mentioned legal basis? This would allow for the necessary supranational coordination across health systems and the required investment in sanitary equipment in order to give an effective response to the health crisis.