

**Question for written answer E-003211/2020  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Jordi Cañas** (Renew)

Subject: European plan for the rights of the elderly

The health crisis caused by COVID-19 has shown that the elderly have more than anyone else been the forgotten, left in homes lacking adequate means, consigned to the back of the queue when there has been a shortage of ventilators or beds in intensive care units. The allocation of health resources on the basis of age or level of dependence which has left elderly persons without care is a flagrant violation of human rights and of bio-ethical principles.

Once the state of emergency is over, the EU should aim at a model which safeguards the dignity and fundamental rights of the elderly.

Article 25 of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights enshrines the rights of the elderly to lead a life of dignity and independence.

The ever-increasing life expectancy in the EU means that by 2050, the population aged over 65 will have reached 149 million.

In light of the above, does the Commission not consider it appropriate to pursue an agenda that develops a European plan for the rights of the elderly on the basis of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights?