

**Question for written answer E-003944/2020
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Piernicola Pedicini (NI), Ignazio Corrao (NI)

Subject: Electromagnetic hypersensitivity (EHS)

Exposure to electromagnetic fields (EMF) has increased dramatically over the years. The so-called 'microwave syndrome' observed among military personnel after World War 2 is now described as 'electromagnetic hypersensitivity' (EHS) and is caused by involuntary exposure to radio frequencies from different sources: WiFi, laptops, mobile phones and towers, smart meters and many other wireless devices.

EHS is characterised by the occurrence of neurological symptoms including headaches, tinnitus, hyperacusis, dizziness, balance disorder, superficial and/or deep sensation abnormalities, fibromyalgia, vegetative nerve dysfunction and reduced cognitive capability. These symptoms are often associated with chronic insomnia, fatigue and depressive tendencies. Some individuals are so severely affected that they are forced to cease work and change their entire lifestyles, which is not always possible given the rapid increase in prevalence and variety of EMF sources.

For a number of reasons, reports on this subject are regularly disregarded.

1. Is the EU financing independent peer-reviewed research to gain a better understanding of EHS?
2. Has the Commission given the SCHEER or the Scientific Advice Mechanism a mandate to review the scientific evidence on the link between EMF and EHS?
3. Is the Commission coordinating the work of Member States in the diagnosis and monitoring of EHS cases in order to fulfil patients' rights in cross-border healthcare?

Supporters¹

¹ This question is supported by Members other than the authors: Rosa D'Amato (NI), Eleonora Evi (NI)