

**Question for written answer E-004328/2020/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Elżbieta Kruk (ECR)

Subject: The EU's powers in the area of public health

On 22 April 2020, in a speech to Parliament's Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety quoted on the Euractiv portal, Stella Kyriakides raised the issue of the EU's powers in the area of health, saying: 'I already stated my view: we need more EU where public health is concerned. And I hope this will be a discussion that we'll be having in the future'. However, the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union gives the Union a rather broad role in this area, providing in Article 168 for the possibility of action which 'complement[s] national policies', as well as for 'monitoring, early warning of and combating serious cross-border threats to health'.

In this connection, I would like to ask the following questions:

1. Does the statement made by Ms Kyriakos represent the official position of the Commission?
2. Does the statement made by the Health Commissioner suggest that the Commission plans to extend its powers at the expense of those of the Member States?