

**Question for written answer E-004436/2020
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Jean-Paul Garraud (ID)

Subject: Free movement within the Schengen area falls victim to COVID-19

At the height of the health crisis, most Member States re-introduced border controls to curtail the spread of the disease.

On 13 May 2020, the Commission presented a package of health and safety guidelines and recommendations to help lift travel restrictions

This has unfortunately proved insufficient given the resurgence of COVID-19 and the increasing number of restrictions at internal borders in Europe.

Indeed, the UK, Finland, Denmark, Austria and Norway are imposing quarantine restrictions on travellers from Spain. Quarantine is also mandatory for travellers from Sweden, the United Kingdom and Portugal in several European countries, including Denmark, Austria, Belgium, the Netherlands and Finland, which has also imposed quarantine on French nationals. Ireland is also imposing quarantine on all Europeans except for nationals of six countries.

Other measures such as screening tests or COVID-free certificates may be required in addition to quarantine.

Does the Commission not think that free movement within the Schengen area is an outmoded concept and is therefore a yet another victim to be added COVID-19's very heavy toll in Europe?