

**Question for written answer E-002878/2021
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Lefteris Nikolaou-Alavanos (NI)

Subject: Victims of the pandemic in homes for the disabled and nursing homes

According to a study by the London School of Economics based on data from Italy, France, Spain, Ireland and Belgium, around half of all deaths during the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic occurred in retirement homes.

Early indicative figures for Greece paint a similar picture, with 13 kidney patients having died at the Taxiarchai private clinic and 25 at the Asvestochori nursing home in northern Greece.

The tragic consequence of institutions and old people's homes is that they have become 'health bombs', since the way they operate is based on business criteria in pursuit of profits and whereby the needs of people with disabilities, the elderly and their families are commercialised.

In view of the above:

1. What data does the Commission have, if any, on the numbers and deaths of elderly and disabled people in institutions and nursing homes, particularly private institutions, in each country and in general?
2. Does it have any data on the effects on the health of chronically ill people who have not been able to receive the tests and treatments they need for more than a year as a result of the health system having become a 'one disease' system?
3. What is the Commission's view of the demands of the working people's movement, health workers and disability action groups for the mass recruitment of permanent staff in all State structures based on current needs and the need to requisition the private sector?