

**Question for written answer E-002900/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Karlo Ressler (PPE)

Subject: Capabilities and development of the 6G network

The world of modern technological solutions is rapidly changing. Although 5G systems are still in their infancy in most Member States, the question of the development of 6G networks is already being raised. Some tech giants are already working hard to develop sixth-generation networks, and their commercial deployment is estimated to start before 2030.

It is predicted that 6G technologies will be more than nine times faster than the 5G standard and will enable a fully connected digital world – a reality that currently remains out of reach.

The European Commission has proposed a regulation establishing a joint undertaking on smart networks and services under the Horizon Europe programme. This proposal provides for an investment of EUR 900 million to support, inter alia, R&D in relation to the 6G network standard.

1. Will the Commission's long-term strategies for developing and implementing 6G networks in the single market support standard harmonisation, as was the case with 5G networks?
2. How does it view the EU's long-term global leadership potential in relation to the future development of 6G technologies?