Question for written answer E-000502/2022/rev.1 to the Commission

Rule 138

Robert Biedroń (S&D), Cyrus Engerer (S&D), Brando Benifei (S&D), Tilly Metz (Verts/ALE), Pernille Weiss (PPE), Alex Agius Saliba (S&D), Frédérique Ries (Renew), Milan Brglez (S&D), Ivan Vilibor Sinčić (NI), Sara Cerdas (S&D), Stelios Kympouropoulos (PPE), Radka Maxová (S&D), Maria Arena (S&D)

Subject: Harmonisation of EU policy on the use of cannabis for medicinal purposes following Parliament's 2019 resolution

The fragmentation of the regulatory framework for medicinal cannabis in the EU has given rise to legal and procedural hurdles. In fact, Member States enforce different rules for the production, licensing, approval and distribution of cannabis-derived medicines. This lack of harmonisation inhibits patients' access to these medicines, hinders the development of sound scientific evidence and prevents the industry from providing high-quality medical products throughout the EU. Consequently, on 13 February 2019, Parliament adopted a resolution on the use of cannabis for medicinal purposes¹.

Considering that almost three years have passed since the resolution was adopted, we would like to ask:

- 1. What is the state of play with regard to the development of a legal definition of medical cannabis, especially in relation to the inventory of terms on the medical application of cannabis recently adopted by the European Medicines Agency's Committee on Herbal Medicinal Products?
- 2. How is the Commission planning to address the regulatory, financial and social hurdles affecting access to cannabis-based medicines?
- 3. How does the Commission intend to support research and innovation in cannabis-based medicines under EU funding programmes?

_

¹ OJ C 449, 23.12.2020, p. 115.