Question for written answer E-000703/2022 to the Commission Rule 138 Nathalie Colin-Oesterlé (PPE)

Subject: Anachronistic discrimination of diabetes patients in Europe

Sixty million people currently suffer from diabetes in Europe. They are denied the opportunity to join the army, the police, civil aviation and the merchant navy or to have a driving licence on the same terms as their fellow citizens. Given the medical advances and improved medical devices to control blood sugar levels, these bans now seem anachronistic.

Moreover, these examples demonstrate alarming discrimination in European legislation, including Directives 2006/126/EC on driving licences, 2007/59/EC on the certification of train drivers and 2012/35/EU on the minimum level of training of seafarers and Regulation (EU) 1178/2011 on civil aviation aircrew.

While some Member States are beginning to take action, such as France, where a parliamentary committee has recently been set up to review the texts governing access to the labour market for people with chronic diseases, or Spain, where diabetic patients have been allowed to join the police and the army since 2018.

- 1. Does the Commission intend to address this issue?
- 2. Will it instigate reviews of the aforementioned legislation?