

**Question for written answer E-000920/2022  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Javier Zarzalejos (PPE), Isabel Benjumea Benjumea (PPE), Antonio López-Istúriz White (PPE), Leopoldo López Gil (PPE)**

**Subject:** EU funding for Cuban medical brigades

The Portuguese institution IMVF reached an agreement with Cuba to fund the Integrated Programme for the Reduction of Maternal and Child Mortality in Guinea-Bissau. The agreement was sponsored by Camões, a public institute. The EU provides 90% of the programme's funds, which finance the recruitment of Cuban doctors and nurses through the Cuban Government.

These medical missions have been labelled as 'contemporary forms of slavery' by the IACHR, HRW and OHCHR, among others. In June and September 2021, Parliament adopted two resolutions on Cuba condemning the Cuban Government for systematically breaching human and labour rights of members of the Cuban medical brigades.

1. How much EU funding has been allocated to Cuban medical missions?
2. Does the Commission know how much the take-home salary of the Cuban medical mission's staff is? Is the Commission aware of the fact that the Cuban authorities pocket 85% of the funds allocated for the salaries of these healthcare professionals? Is the Commission also aware of the fact that the Cuban authorities confiscate the passports and academic qualifications of Cuban health professionals in Guinea-Bissau?
3. What is the Commission's take on this situation?