

**Question for written answer E-001273/2022  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Isabella Tovaglieri (ID)**

Subject: Health rights of workers at the Ispra Joint Research Centre

The European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC) in Ispra is considered to be "one of Europe's leading research campuses with many laboratories and unique research infrastructures."

The Ispra site is an EU hub in Italy with outstanding multinational scientific expertise, and it would be the ideal site for new EU agencies such as the Anti-Money Laundering Agency.

Staff at the JRC recently revealed that the Italian authorities are considering withdrawing their cover under the SSN national health service.

This problem originates in an interpretation that considers JSIS insurance coverage to be equivalent to cover provided by the SSN (the primary provider). However, in reality the JSIS only refunds part of the costs, and only for some services for which the limit of its liability is low and inadequate.

This has created uncertainty regarding the possibility of Ispra becoming the seat for other EU agencies (such as Europol already).

Access to the SSN is a right guaranteed in the Constitution; staff employed in Italy pay the taxes and contributions due.

Exclusion from cover under the SSN would adversely affect health rights and create inequality between colleagues living within and outside Italian national territory.

In the light of the above:

1. Is the Commission aware of this problem?
2. Will it ask the Italian authorities to suspend withdrawal of Italy's healthcare cards from staff until this misunderstanding can be cleared up, and to take rapid action, together with trade union organisations, to remedy the situation?