

**Question for written answer E-002495/2022
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Joanna Kopcińska (ECR)

Subject: Increase in Covid-19 infections

Over the past two weeks, there has been a significant increase in SARS-CoV-2 infections in many countries (including France, Italy, Germany and Cyprus). According to the ECDC's evaluation last week (26 June 2022), cases among people aged 65 and over increased in 21 of the 26 countries providing data on infections. This is a 27% increase on the previous week. This week's data shows that the number of infections is continuing to grow, which has resulted in some Member States introducing protective measures aimed at stopping the spread of the virus. The ECDC's overview report published on 30 June 2022 predicts increasing numbers of new infections, hospitalisations and deaths.

Does the Commission intend to provide updated instructions in relation to changing methodologies for forecasting infections, the reporting of which is increasingly unreliable due to changes in testing criteria and reporting procedures? With the existing methodology, to what extent is the European Covid-19 Forecast Hub able to make a genuine contribution to effectively forecasting the trajectory of the trends referred to above?

In the light of the current increase in coronavirus infections, will the Commission draw up a new roadmap to provide advice and recommendations in the run-up to the intensive vaccination campaign after the holidays?