

Question for written answer E-002842/2022
to the Commission
Rule 138
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Subject: Demographics and long-term care

Demographic trends mean that Slovenia faces challenging tasks in the coming years. For more than forty years the birth rate in Slovenia has been insufficient to ensure population replacement. At the same time, Slovenian society is rapidly ageing.

In October 2021, the government established an Office for Demography with the aim of promoting, coordinating and steering activities to ensure population replacement in Slovenia.

The demographic changes and demographic challenges ahead should be tackled in a strategic, integrated and sustained manner. Active intergenerational dialogue and intergenerational cooperation are required.

The new government has abolished the Office for Demography. At the same time it is proposing to postpone implementation of the Long-Term Care Act, with which Slovenia finally acted on the Commission's warnings (the last Member State to do so), including with the help of European funds.

I would therefore ask the Commission:

1. How does it view the abolition of the Office for Demography, given the real challenges faced by Slovenia and Europe in this area?
2. The current Commission is the first to have a portfolio for demography. What role does this portfolio play and why does the Commission believe it necessary in this form?
3. Is the Commission aware that Slovenia is postponing implementation of its Long-Term Care Act?