

**Question for written answer E-002933/2022  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Lefteris Nikolaou-Alavanos (NI)**

Subject: The 'new-deal health service'

The 'new-deal health service' being projected by the Greek government involves the literal dismembering of the existing system, thereby undermining the right to high-quality health care. In a bid to 'rationalise' services on the basis of a 'health care road map', it is seeking to achieve cuts in various health centres, hospital wards and services or even close them down completely, depending on how much they cost to run.

At the same time, there is a move to encourage hospitals to operate more 'independently', allowing doctors to hold paid surgeries in the afternoon that are similar to those already organised in public hospitals, thereby forcing patients, either directly or indirectly through insurance funds, to pay for their care.

GPs, who in any case provide an essential service, will then act as a 'turnstile' for further examinations and treatment by other specialists.

The private sector will continue to rake in billions of euros from those with insurance while mandatory PPPs will ensure swift returns for certain individuals.

What view does the Commission take of the actions of the EU and national governments in commercialising health care with an eye to corporate profits (patients paying for medical treatment, hospitalisation and surgery and business interests taking a firmer hold) at a time of severe hardship caused by the spiralling cost of living, inflation and rock-bottom wages and given the manifest need for a more robust public health service to deal with a resurgence of the pandemic?