

**Question for written answer E-004144/2022
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Guido Reil (ID)

Subject: Care strategy and care home supervision

Authorities in the Member States frequently fail to subject care homes to appropriate checks. Quality inspections are often superficial or are not carried out at all. Instead of specifically assessing the individuals in need of care, the inspectors only read the care documentation. The supervisory bodies are understaffed and overstretched.

Such a situation is described, for example, in the most recent annual report published by the Court of Audit of the federal state of Saxony-Anhalt, dating from 2021. The Court of Audit identifies significant shortcomings in care home supervision. In principle, the authority responsible for such supervision should inspect every residential facility at least once a year. In 2018 and 2019, however, only half of the required inspections took place. The auditors are also critical of the fact that quality reports are often not accessible to care home residents and their relatives and that the reports provide 'no meaningful information'¹. In France, the French care home group Orpea was the subject of a scandal in 2022. In his book 'The Gravediggers', French journalist Victor Castanet described in detail the serious shortcomings in the care provided at French old people's homes. Throughout Europe we hear calls for quality inspections at old people's homes to be significantly improved².

Why is this problem not being dealt with aggressively as part of the care strategy and included in the recommendations for Member States?

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¹ Landesgesellschaft fährt 130 Millionen Euro Verlust ein [Federal-state-owned company makes EUR 130 million loss], Radio Brocken, 8 December 2021.

² Annika Joeres, Gut gepflegt wurde vor allem die Rendite [Profits looked after above all else], Zeitonline, 4 February 2022.