

**Question for written answer E-001441/2023
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Clare Daly (The Left)

Subject: Administration of cross-border healthcare schemes in Ireland

The Irish Ombudsman recently published a review¹ of the administration of the Cross-Border Healthcare Scheme established in Ireland under Directive 2011/24/EU, and the Treatment Abroad Scheme established under Council Regulation (EEC) No 1408/71 and operated under Council Regulation (EEC) No 574/72. This review identified numerous barriers to access for Irish patients to both schemes, as well as problems with their administration by the Irish Health Service Executive.

1. Can the Commission comment on the Irish Ombudsman's findings?
2. Is it satisfied that the administration of both schemes in Ireland meets the requirements of the relevant legislation, or is it concerned that Irish people's access to cross-border healthcare has been impeded by the administration of the relevant schemes, causing those requiring healthcare to suffer distress, physical pain and/or handicap, and hardship?

Submitted: 3.5.2023

¹ Irish Ombudsman's Office, *In Sickness and in Debt – An investigation by the Ombudsman into the administration by the Health Service Executive of schemes that fund necessary medical treatment in the EU/EEA or UK*, Dublin, 2023.