

Question for written answer E-003025/2023
to the Commission
Rule 138
Cindy Franssen (PPE)

Subject: The international fight against poliomyelitis

The international fight against poliomyelitis has been a success, largely thanks to the cooperation of civil society and public institutions worldwide. Today, almost every country in the world has been declared polio-free. However, despite this significant progress in global polio eradication efforts, all countries, particularly vulnerable ones such as the Democratic Republic of Congo and South Sudan, remain at risk of the transmission of variant polioviruses.

In its new EU Global Health Strategy, the Commission aims to strengthen global health security and to promote better health for all. The Commission rightly reaffirms its commitment to combating various communicable diseases, including poliomyelitis.

As part of this EU Global Health Strategy:

1. Does the Commission agree that the eradication of poliomyelitis remains of the utmost importance and what concrete actions does it intend to take to further support polio immunisation efforts in countries where the disease is endemic?
2. Is the Commission considering accelerating funding for polio eradication in the 2004 EU Budget through the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI)?
3. In future years, will the Commission also prioritise funding to combat re-emerging communicable diseases in Europe, such as poliomyelitis?

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