

**Question for written answer E-003353/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Gwendoline Delbos-Corfield (Verts/ALE), **Anna Cavazzini** (Verts/ALE), **Ciarán Cuffe** (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Your Europe Advice service

The Your Europe Advice (YEA) service is funded by the Commission's Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW) and operated by the European Citizen Advice Service (ECAS). It has been in operation since 1996. It provides information and advice to EU residents about citizens' rights through a network of lawyers in Member States. Civil society organisations working on citizens' rights, particularly those related to the UK's exit from the EU, advise citizens to contact the YEA service for legal advice on issues regarding their rights under the UK Withdrawal Agreement (WA). However, it has been reported that the DG GROW will close the service and not publish a tender to extend it when the current contract expires in March 2024.

1. Does the Commission intend to continue the YEA service once the current contract with ECAS expires in March 2024, and if not, why is the service being closed?
2. Will there be alternative solutions for EU residents to obtain essential, independent, free and reliable legal advice as of March 2024?
3. Will there be an alternative reporting mechanism for the Commission to monitor how citizens' rights aspects of the WA are being implemented by Member States?

Submitted: 14.11.2023