

**Question for written answer E-003357/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Improving Lyme disease treatment

Lyme disease, or Lyme borreliosis, is a zoonotic disease transmitted through the bite of ticks infected with *Borrelia*, a bacterium of the spirochete family. Although the infection is often mild, it can result in a debilitating disease with symptoms ranging from joint pain to partial limb paralysis. In its least serious form, the disease presents as a rash that, if not treated promptly, can affect several systems and organs. There is scientific controversy over the chronic nature of the disease.

On 15 November 2018, the European Parliament adopted a resolution aimed at allocating additional funding to research on Lyme disease and harmonising research and prevention within the European Union. Despite the significant progress made, treatment of the infection varies across the Member States and it is still very difficult to diagnose.

In view of the above:

1. Five years after this resolution, what progress has been made on research and prevention in the European Union?
2. Will the Commission encourage the Member States to harmonise their laws to ensure better treatment of the disease?

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