

**Question for written answer E-000077/2024
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Ioannis Lagos (NI)

Subject: Eurostat: one in six Greeks forsakes medical examinations due to cost

The findings of a Eurostat report on unmet needs for medical examinations look bleak for Greece. The country ranks first in terms of self-reported unmet needs for medical examinations due to financial reasons, long waiting lists or distance from healthcare facilities.

In 2022, 3.3% of people in need of medical examinations across the EU were not able to undergo them because they could not afford to. The EU countries reporting the highest values were: Greece (16.7%), Finland (9.6%), Romania (7.9%) and Latvia (7.1%). The share of people at risk of poverty in the EU who reported such unmet needs was 6.1%, which is twice as high as those not at risk (2.8%). In Greece, the reported share was 14.5 percentage points higher among those at risk of poverty (28.8%) compared with those not at risk (14.3%). Wide discrepancies were also seen in Romania (15.5% compared with 6.1%) and in Portugal (11.7% compared with 3.2%).

What initiatives will the Commission take in order to ensure that all EU citizens, particularly those at risk of poverty, have access to essential medical examinations?

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