

**Question for written answer E-000791/2024  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Stefania Zambelli (PPE)**

**Subject:** Brazil's dengue and Zika epidemic and its possible spread to Europe

Brazil's current dengue and Zika epidemic is a growing cause of concern that poses a potential threat to Europe too.

The most recent data from Brazil's Ministry of Health confirms that the dengue epidemic has already claimed 391 lives this year. A further 854 deaths are still under investigation. The number of suspected cases exceeds 1.5 million, of which 12 000 are serious.

Given that the viruses can be spread by mosquitoes and as people travel around, this state of affairs is deeply alarming – not only for Brazil but also for Europe.

The symptoms of dengue include high fever, a severe headache, eye pain, muscle ache, joint pain, nausea, vomiting and skin irritation. With the Zika virus disease, by contrast, an estimated 80% of cases are asymptomatic. Those that are symptomatic, however, might look like the flu, accompanied by a rash, arthralgia, myalgia, a headache and conjunctivitis.

In the light of the worrying figures set out above, will the Commission outline the steps it is going to take to monitor and prevent the spread of these diseases in Europe, as well as the strategies for a timely diagnosis and effective treatment of suspected cases?

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