

**Question for written answer E-001093/2024
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Viktor Uspaskich (NI)

Subject: Spending on medical services in the EU

The quality of healthcare depends to a large extent on the level of funding allocated to it. Funding levels influence the professionalism of staff, as they determine how much can be spent on staff training or upskilling. More funding also allows more staff to be recruited, which improves the quality of treatment and allows more tests to be ordered, among other things.

In 2020, there was more than eight-fold difference in spending per patient between Member States. As a result, richer countries are able to attract the best medical and nursing professionals from poorer EU countries, further worsening the situation in less wealthy EU countries.

Could the Commission answer the following questions:

1. Does the Commission agree that such a large gap in funding is not acceptable?
2. How does the Commission intend to address this sensitive issue, and does it pledge to allocate additional funds to the less wealthy EU countries in order to close the gap?

Submitted:12.4.2024