

**Question for oral answer O-000026/2013
to the Commission**

Rule 115

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on behalf of the PPE Group

Subject: Promoting health-enhancing physical activity in the EU

The results presented in a 2010 Eurobarometer statistical survey¹ show that, from a public health perspective, 14 % of EU citizens are physically inactive, admitting that they do not engage in any form of physical activity. Furthermore, 60 % of EU citizens say that they never or rarely practice any sport or participate in any organised form of exercise.

It has been proven that regular physical activity plays a vital role in maintaining good health and preventing severe medical conditions. Moreover, insufficient physical activity has detrimental effects not only on the health of the individual but also on health system costs and on the economy in general, given the significant direct and indirect economic costs of physical inactivity.

Physical activity contributes to active and healthy ageing, bringing benefits at every age by preventing disease, hastening rehabilitation and promoting collaboration and team spirit.

It is also important to mention that grassroots sports, and investments in relevant sport infrastructure, play an important role in meeting evolving needs with regard to sports and physical activity.

In the light of the above, and with regard to Article 165 of the Lisbon Treaty, does the Commission intend to present any proposals to promote and enhance sports and other physical activities among EU citizens?

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Deadline for reply: 25.3.2013

¹ European Commission: Sport and Physical Activity (Special Eurobarometer 334, March 2010), http://ec.europa.eu/sport/library/documents/d/ebs_334_en.pdf