

**Priority question for written answer P-003213/2020/rev.1  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Giorgos Georgiou (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: Impact of restrictions imposed due to the spread of Coronavirus on persons with dementia

The restrictions that came into force due to the spread of Coronavirus (suspension of the provision of important services such as day care, the ban on visiting hospitals and nursing homes) have adversely affected our fellow citizens suffering from dementia, as well as their carers. Regular social contact between persons with dementia and their loved ones is of paramount importance. The absence of such contact could cause dementia to worsen more rapidly.

Can the Commission say what steps it can take to ensure that:

1. the needs and safety of persons suffering from dementia are catered for through long-term support systems that help persons suffering from dementia stay in touch with their loved ones?
2. emergency psychosocial support is widely available during and after the pandemic, including community activities, health and social care services and the provision of distance mental health services for those in need?
3. investment in mental health services is increased, with particular emphasis on the need to create community services that are accessible, affordable and sustainable in the long term, involving individuals (caregivers, specialists and persons with dementia) with real life experience in planning, implementing and monitoring these services?