

**Question for written answer E-001885/2025/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Afroditi Latinopoulou (PfE)

Subject: Risks of societies' over-reliance on digital services, particularly in the financial sector

The EU has worked closely alongside all UN members to achieve a global digital pact outlining principles, objectives and actions to promote the digital transition of societies.¹

However, it has been observed that the over-reliance on digital services promoted by the EU and several Member States may expose European societies to serious risks when internet access is unavailable for long periods, as recently happened in Spain and Portugal. Among the infrastructures that were put out of service were, on the one hand, online banking and, on the other, credit institution ATMs, making it impossible for citizens who did not have cash to purchase essential daily items.²

In light of the above, the Commission is asked:

1. Is the complete abolition of cash from the European legal order, as promoted by some Member States, in line with European law?³
2. Does the Commission have a strategy - or even a framework of recommendations - to address crises in which European citizens are unable to access their bank accounts to purchase essential goods using online banking or ATMs?

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¹ <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/united-nations-members-adopted-global-digital-compact-shaping-safe-and-sustainable-digital-future>

² <https://euroweeklynews.com/2025/04/29/spains-blackout-lesson-cash-is-king-again/>

³ <https://www.kathimerini.gr/economy/local/1028769/koinonia-choris-metritha-se-deka-chronia-i-elliniki/>