Question for written answer E-004022/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
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Subject: Creating a European network of AI-powered advanced screening centres

During Italian Tech Week, which took place from 1–3 October 2025, Commission President Ursula von der Leyen announced that a European network of AI-powered advanced screening centres would be created to improve preventive healthcare and shorten waiting times.

This initiative forms part of a wider framework: the AI Act (Regulation (EU) 2024/1689) lays down stringent obligations for high-risk AI systems, including those intended for use for medical purposes, while the Digital Europe Programme has a budget of EUR 8.1 billion and provides for the rollout of 150 European Digital Innovation Hubs (EDIH).

Innovative start-ups still struggle to gain access to research infrastructure and computational capacity, particularly in the digital health industry.

1. What legal status will this network of AI-powered screening centres have, how will it be funded and how will it tie in with the 150 EDIHs, the AI factories and the existing programmes so that innovators in the industry are guaranteed access to the network?

2. How will the Commission ensure that the AI-powered screening systems comply with the obligations for high-risk systems set out in the AI Act and with the General Data Protection Regulation? What technical frameworks will be put into place so that health data can be shared securely before the European Health Data Space is up and running?

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