

Question for written answer E-005045/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
Nikolaos Anadiotis (NI)

Subject: Chronic shortages of medical staff in underserved and island regions of Greece and access to basic health services

In many underserved, mountainous and island regions of Greece, there are serious and chronic shortages of medical and nursing staff, making it difficult or even impossible for residents to access basic health services and putting the safety of visitors during the summer period at risk¹². Many posts remain vacant, in spite of repeated notices and financial incentives, highlighting the structural dimension of the problem³.

In accordance with Article 168 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, the Union is to ensure a high level of human health protection in all its policies and activities, while cohesion policy aims to reduce regional disparities⁴.

In view of the above, can the Commission answer the following:

1. How does it assess the state of access to basic health services in underserved and island regions of Greece?
2. What EU funding tools can be used to attract and retain medical staff in remote areas?
3. Does it intend to strengthen initiatives such as telemedicine and cross-border health networks to reduce inequalities in access?

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¹ <https://www.ygeiamou.gr/idisis/490993/kalokeri-sta-nisia-me-ligostous-giatrous-i-ellipsis-pou-provlimatizoun-i-kinisis-pou-dinoun-lisi>

² <https://www.ekathimerini.com/in-depth/society-in-depth/1279118/staff-shortages-at-aegina-health-center-under-scrutiny-after-elderly-woman-dies>

³ <https://www.ethnos.gr/health/article/390851/neakinhtragianastelexosoynoigiatioitanhsiakaitisagonesperi-oxesoikenestheseiskaitaagkathia>

⁴ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:12016E168>