

Question for written answer E-000269/2026
to the Commission
Rule 144
Galato Alexandraki (ECR)

Subject: The collapse of the Greek national health system and the responsibility of Member States and the EU to ensure equal access to healthcare

Public hospitals in Greece are facing a severe operational crisis, due to chronic understaffing, the mass departure of healthcare professionals and the inability to replace permanent posts. Despite the statements repeatedly issued by the Government, tens of thousands of posts remain vacant, particularly in regional hospitals and health centres. Meanwhile, excessive workloads and low wages are leading to occupational burnout and an acceleration of brain drain.

Healthcare costs are increasingly being passed onto citizens, in a country that is already deeply impoverished. This is at odds with the Union's fundamental objective of universal and equitable access to health services. At the same time, the absence of binding EU interventions means Member States are dangerously diverging in terms of minimum public health standards.

Can the Commission answer the following:

1. How does it assess the current staffing situation in public hospitals in Greece and its compatibility with the principle of equal access to health?
2. Does it intend to propose binding minimum staffing and funding thresholds for public health structures across all Member States?
3. What concrete measures does it intend to take to address the brain drain in healthcare and prevent the further weakening of public health systems?

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