

**Question for written answer E-003130/2026**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 144  
**Elena Kountoura (The Left)**

**Subject:** A European strategy for tackling infertility and supporting assisted reproduction in the EU

Infertility is a serious and urgent public health problem<sup>1</sup> that affects millions of citizens in the Union and is directly linked to the demographic crisis and the falling birth rates recorded in recent years. Despite this, access to infertility prevention, diagnosis and treatment, including assisted reproduction, remains uneven across Member States and is rarely supported by national health systems<sup>2</sup>.

In view of the severe demographic crisis in Europe and the historically low fertility rate of 1.34 children per woman in the EU<sup>3</sup>, the high financial cost of treatments, which – combined with the rising cost of living, job insecurity and the imbalance between work and family life – acts as a disincentive for couples wishing to have children, and taking into account the global guideline issued by the WHO in November 2025 on the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of infertility<sup>4</sup>, can the Commission answer the following:

1. Does it plan to propose a new European strategy for the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of infertility, in line with WHO recommendations, and to make the infertility challenge a priority of European public health and demographic policies?
2. Does it intend to support a specific funding mechanism in the new Multiannual Financial Framework to support the fertility and assisted reproduction sector in the Member States, as well as to reduce the financial and mental burden of fertility treatments on citizens?

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<sup>1</sup> The WHO defines infertility as a disease of the reproductive system and it is estimated that around one in six people of reproductive age worldwide experience infertility at some point in their lifetime.

<sup>2</sup> Βλ.

[https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2023/757504/IPOL\\_STU\(2023\)757504\\_EN.pdf](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2023/757504/IPOL_STU(2023)757504_EN.pdf).

<sup>3</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=Fertility\\_statistics](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=Fertility_statistics).

<sup>4</sup> The guideline includes 40 recommendations covering the whole spectrum of prevention, diagnosis and treatment of infertility and advocates for their integration into the national health systems of all states (<https://www.who.int/news/item/28-11-2025-who-issues-first-global-guideline-on-infertility>).