

Question for written answer E-003557/2026
to the Commission
Rule 144
Lefteris Nikolaou-Alavanos (NI)

Subject: Government and EU responsibilities for the spread of the West Nile virus

The West Nile virus is spreading in Greece, with cases in 66 municipalities, 39 of which in Attica. So far, there have been 290 cases and 24 deaths.

The Nea Dimokratia Government has failed to take any measures to protect public health even though circulation of the virus has been common knowledge for years. In appealing to ‘individual responsibility’, it is once again shifting responsibility onto the people.

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

1. What view does it take of the fact that it is the EU’s overall strategy – and in particular Directives 2014/23/EU and 2014/24/EU – that sets the scene for the municipal services of regions and municipalities to be privatised by awarding contracts to private individuals, i.e. by establishing public-private partnerships?
2. What view does it take of the fact that the policy of contracting and privatising essential public health services, such as spraying, provided for in the above-mentioned directives, on the one hand leads to the underfunding of these services and the deterioration of their quality, as they are subject to ‘cost-benefit’ criteria, ultimately also leading to increased costs for the people and risks to their health, while on the other hand securing huge profits for business groups?
3. What view does it take of the fact that, at a time when billions are being pumped into the war economy and doled out to EU and national governments to support corporate group profitability, the competent regional directorates for health control and public health are being condemned to tragic understaffing and underfunding?

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