

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001810/26
to the Commission
Cynthia Ní Mhurchú (Renew)
(4 May 2026)**

Subject: Strengthening Europe's Beating Cancer Plan: from implementation to outcomes and patient-centred policy

Will the Commission support strengthening Europe's Beating Cancer Plan to shift from implementation-based to outcome-based policy, improve patient access and data-driven evaluation, and ensure stronger patient involvement, while recognising cancer as a societal challenge requiring an 'all policies' approach across all EU frameworks?

Submitted: 4.5.2026

**Answer given by Mr Várhelyi on behalf of the European Commission
(9 July 2026)**

The Commission continues to implement the Europe's Beating Cancer Plan⁽¹⁾ and deliver tangible outcomes. The recently published European Court of Auditors report⁽²⁾ put forward recommendations supporting this work and suggesting to strengthen the related monitoring and evaluation.

Existing tools to map outcomes include the Implementation Roadmap and the 2025 Cancer Plan review⁽³⁾. By 2027, the Commission will establish a Cancer Plan-wide monitoring framework, with a comprehensive evaluation planned by 2030. In parallel, the Commission is preparing the mid-term assessment of the five EU Missions, including for the EU Cancer Mission⁽⁴⁾.

Patient access is a key theme of the Cancer Plan, which is reflected in flagship initiatives such as the new EU Cancer Screening Scheme⁽⁵⁾,⁽⁶⁾ and the EU Network of Comprehensive Cancer Centres⁽⁷⁾ in the areas of early detection, diagnosis, and treatment.

Patient involvement is another important pillar of the Cancer Plan, as reflected for example in the inclusion of patients in the expert working groups for the Commission Initiatives on cancer screening and care⁽⁸⁾ and the long-term dialogue with adolescents and young adults living with and beyond cancer under the EU Cancer Mission⁽⁹⁾.

⁽¹⁾ COM/2021/44 final.

⁽²⁾ https://www.eca.europa.eu/ECAPublications/SR-2026-07/SR-2026-07_EN.pdf.

⁽³⁾ https://health.ec.europa.eu/latest-updates/review-europes-beating-cancer-plan-2025-02-04_en.

⁽⁴⁾ https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe/eu-missions-horizon-europe/eu-mission-cancer_en.

⁽⁵⁾ https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.C_.2022.473.01.0001.01.ENG.

⁽⁶⁾ https://health.ec.europa.eu/non-communicable-diseases/cancer/europes-beating-cancer-plan-eu4health-financed-projects/projects/eucanscreen_en.

⁽⁷⁾ https://health.ec.europa.eu/non-communicable-diseases/cancer/europes-beating-cancer-plan-eu4health-financed-projects/projects/eunetccc_en.

⁽⁸⁾ <https://cancer-screening-and-care.jrc.ec.europa.eu/en>.

⁽⁹⁾ https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe/eu-missions-horizon-europe/eu-mission-cancer/implementation-page/dialogue-young-cancer-survivors_en.