

EN
P-000590/2026
Answer given by Mr Várhelyi
on behalf of the European Commission
(15.4.2026)

1. In accordance with Article 168(7) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union¹, Union action must respect the responsibilities of the Member States for the organisation and delivery of their health services and medical care, including for migrants. Under the Healthier Together initiative², the Commission supports Member States and stakeholders in implementing actions addressing non-communicable diseases (NCDs) with funding from the EU4Health programme³. The actions include a health inequalities dimension and address the needs of vulnerable populations.

2. The Commission supports Member States in reducing health inequalities through the European Cancer Inequalities Registry⁴, which provides data to guide investments at EU and national level. Under the Safe Hearts Plan⁵, the Commission intends to develop an EU cardiovascular health inequalities dashboard to help identify gaps in access to and availability of care across the EU.

¹ <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:12012E/TXT&from=en>.

² https://health.ec.europa.eu/non-communicable-diseases/healthier-together-eu-non-communicable-diseases-initiative_en.

³ https://health.ec.europa.eu/funding/eu4health-programme-2021-2027-vision-healthier-european-union_en.

⁴ <https://cancer-inequalities.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>.

⁵ https://health.ec.europa.eu/non-communicable-diseases/cardiovascular-health_en.