

Question for written answer E-014926/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Claudia Tapardel (S&D)

Subject: Addressing neonatal and premature infant care in the EU

17 November is World Prematurity Day.

According to the UN, one baby in 10 is born premature worldwide. Every year in the EU there are more than 2 million failed pregnancies, 50 000 babies are stillborn or die in their first year, and about 90 000 babies have major congenital anomalies, while 500 000 pregnancies end preterm.

Despite the growing prevalence and increasing cost of premature births, neonatal and preterm infant health ranks low on the policy agenda of the Member States. Few EU countries have implemented targeted policies focusing on such issues.

1. Are there any EU policies or specific actions addressing neonatal and preterm infant care?
2. Is there specific funding in the EU budget for addressing such issues?
3. If not, is the Commission considering opening a budget line for funding quality and risk-appropriate healthcare for mothers and babies and improving the recruitment, education and training of specialised healthcare staff?