

Question for written answer E-015827/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Gianluca Buonanno (ENF)

Subject: Hospital staff shifts and overtime - limits imposed by EU law

Recently a particularly unpleasant news story has been doing the rounds in Italy – the enforcement of EU legislation on the application of limits to the overtime and shifts of doctors and nurses has led to a suspension of a number of organ transplants and to the impossibility for patients waiting for transplants to benefit from organs which have become available. The health and administration situation of some Italian regions, together with the limits imposed by the European stability pact, do not enable staff shortages in some hospitals in the more disadvantaged areas and regions of Italy to be remedied.

Given this situation, will the Commission amend these rules and their excessive inflexibility, in order to allow healthcare professionals to take action in particularly urgent and vital cases?