

**Question for written answer E-004601/2013
to the Commission**

Rule 117

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Subject: Follow up to the Written Declaration on Epilepsy

The Written Declaration on Epilepsy was passed by Parliament by an overwhelming majority in September 2011. Amongst other issues, the Written Declaration on Epilepsy called on the Commission and the Council to:

1. encourage research and innovation in the area of prevention and early diagnosis and treatment of epilepsy;
2. prioritise epilepsy as a major disease that imposes a significant burden across Europe;
3. take initiatives to encourage Member States to ensure equal quality of life, in areas such as education, employment, transport, and public healthcare for people with epilepsy.

What steps has the Commission taken to comply with the measures outlined in the Written Declaration on Epilepsy since it was passed? Furthermore, could the Commission provide concrete examples of the initiatives it has taken to reduce the burden of epilepsy across Europe?

Finally, the Commission has decided to make May 2013 the European Month of the Brain. As epilepsy is the third most common neurological disorder in Europe, what initiatives has the Commission taken to integrate epilepsy within the European Month of the Brain?