Coronavirus Covid-19: EU-WHO Mission in Italy. "Efforts to contain the disease and protect our citizens' health"

(Brussels) A joint mission of the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (Ecdc), experts from the EU Commission (directorate-general for health) and the World Health Organisation (WHO) is taking place in Italy right now. "The expert team – a notice explains – is focussing on the transmission of Covid-19 in the affected areas of Italy, on clinical management, surveillance, the monitoring of infections and the communication of risks". Today the Health Commissioner, Stella Kyriakides, will be going to Rome, where tomorrow she will be meeting Italian Health Minister Roberto Speranza, Hans Kluge, director of WHO Europe, and Andrea Ammon, director of Ecdc. After the meeting, they will give a joint press conference. Before the meeting, the Commissioner, Kyriakides, stated: "I welcome the support of the joint expert mission of the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control and the World Health Organisation, that is in Italy right now to support its efforts to monitor and prevent Covid-19. The EU Commission supports and joins forces with Italy and all the member states in their efforts to contain the disease and protect our citizens' health".

Valentina Bombelli