

**Question for written answer E-009616/2015  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Beatriz Becerra Basterrechea (ALDE)**

Subject: Access to Medicines: the Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI) and return on public investment

The Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI) is the world's largest public-private partnership in life sciences, with a budget of EUR 3.3 billion, 50 % of which comes from Horizon 2020, with the bulk of the remaining 50 % received as contributions in kind from companies of the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations (EFPIA).

In her response to a previous question on this issue, Written Question E-004657/2015, Commissioner Malmström states that Horizon 2020 rules exclude the EU from owning IPR resulting from grants. She also affirms that IMI2 qualifies as a pioneer in open R&D innovation.

1. The EU, its Member States and the European citizens should be the legitimate owners of knowledge generated through public investment. How can the Commission consider that IMI contributes to open R&D innovation in the field of biomedics when the whole of its R&D outcome is IPR-protected?
2. European citizens pay twice for the products of R&D: as taxpayers and as consumers. Does the Commission consider the future of R&D to be to invest and not receive return on what is invested, and does it consider this to be a fair and balanced deal?
3. How does the Commission plan to improve its mechanisms for auditing EFPIA companies' in-species contributions to the IMI?