

**Question for written answer E-002328/2019  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**João Ferreira (GUE/NGL)**

Subject: EU and Member States' roles in tackling Alzheimer's

According to recent news reports, the pharmaceutical giant Pfizer hid the discovery of a medical product that could prevent Alzheimer's purely for financial reasons.

Yet evidence has come to light which proves that Enbrel – one of the most popular medicines for rheumatoid arthritis – works well against Alzheimer's, reducing the risks by 65%. However, clinical trials are required to prove how effective Enbrel really is, and Pfizer is against this.

Given that Alzheimer's is expected to affect around 56 million people by 2030, there is no doubt that drug development is absolutely crucial.

If multinational pharmaceutical companies are going to put profits before public interest, public authorities must find other ways of developing the pharmaceutical products that are needed.

1. What (public and private) projects is the EU supporting to tackle Alzheimer's?
2. Why has the Commission disbanded the Governmental Expert Group on Dementia, which was composed of Member States and members of the public?
3. Does the Commission intend to encourage Member States to share expertise and best practices and to adopt national strategies to tackle Alzheimer's?