

Commission discharge – Follow-up question for Commissioner Kyriakides

Question: Why some manufacturers may have received money only from the EU budget, while others may have received it from the EU budget with a top up from Member States?

Commission's answer: SANTE

In December 2020, the Member States contributed a total of 750 million to the budget for the Emergency Support Instrument (“ESI”) to support the procurement of vaccines. These credits were considered assigned revenues and were added to the ESI budget line. Prior to this, the pre-financing of the initial Advance Purchase Agreements (APAs) was fully financed from the EU budget. Following the receipt of the top-up from Member States, the pre-financing of the subsequent APAs was (partially) financed with the funding made available by the Member States. The manufacturers received payments only via the Commission, and to them no distinction was made between the sources of the funds.

**Commission replies to follow-up questions from CONT Committee Members in the context of
Commissioner's Kyriakides' discharge hearing**

1. Why are there significant differences between the amounts paid to different pharmaceutical companies?

Reply: The amounts of the down payments are linked to the contracts signed and are the result of the negotiations in each case, and linked of course also to the number of the vaccine doses intended to be purchased.

2. Why are some amounts rounded figures, while others appear to be exact numbers? What is the explanation for this difference?

Reply: The fact that for some contracts the amounts are not rounded, is due to the fact that for these contracts the basic price was agreed in a foreign currency and then converted into euros in accordance with the Financial Regulation (Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046).

3. Is the total amount paid to the pharmaceutical companies public information which we can share? Or is this also a confidential figure?

Reply: The total amount of the pre-financing payments paid to vaccine manufacturers under the Emergency Support Instrument (ESI) to address the COVID-19 pandemic was disclosed in the Annex to the report to the Council COM(2022)386 of 28 July 2022 on the implementation of the Emergency Support Instrument. It amounts to EUR 2 553.79 million.

Hence, this information is already available to the general public via the following link:

[Register of Commission Documents - COM\(2022\)386 \(europa.eu\)](https://european-council.europa.eu/media/1000000/attachment/data/2022/07/28/COM(2022)386_en.pdf)