

**Question for written answer E-001898/2020/rev.1
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Preparatory measures taken by the Commission in the early stages of the coronavirus crisis

On 7 January 2020, the Chinese authorities announced that a novel virus had been identified. The virus was named SARS-CoV-2. After the first case outside China was recorded in Thailand on 13 January, the virus reached Europe as early as 26 January, with three cases in France ¹. It was thus clear by the end of January that the pandemic had also spilled over into Europe.

1. What specific action did the Commission take in January 2020 to prepare the Member States for an outbreak of the pandemic in the EU and as far as possible to stop it spreading?
2. What specific action did the Commission take in February 2020 to prepare the Member States for an outbreak of the pandemic in the EU and as far as possible to stop it spreading?
3. What specific action did the Commission take in March 2020 to prepare the Member States for an outbreak of the pandemic in the EU and as far as possible to stop it spreading?

¹ <https://www.salzburg24.at/news/welt/coronavirus-erstmal-infektionen-in-europa-82487650>