Question for written answer E-002083/2020 to the Commission
Rule 138
Maria Grapini (S&D)

Subject: Reduction and capping of clawback tax on generic medicines

The clawback tax was introduced as a provisional measure in 2009 in response to the economic crisis. The cheaper the medicine, the higher the tax. As a result, manufacturers of generic medicines paid a higher clawback tax, since it was calculated on the price of the drug including surcharges added by distributors and pharmacies.

Manufacturers of generic medicines play an important part in ensuring value for money and making medicines more affordable. Delays in reducing this tax on generic medicines are having an adverse social and economic effect, depriving patients of affordable medicines, as well as undermining manufacturers and causing job losses in this sector.

In view of this, will the Commission consider the introduction of a reduced sliding-scale tax on generic medicines that is capped at a certain level?