

**Question for written answer E-002295/2020  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: EU policy and the pharmaceutical industry after the COVID-19 crisis

Worryingly, the COVID-19 pandemic in Europe has exposed the fact that 70 % to 80 % of the active substances making up our medicines are produced nowadays outside the European Union, for the most part in China. This state of affairs is broadly similar to the situation in the United States, where in 2018, the company Civica Rx was launched. This is an alliance of 900 American hospitals, accounting for 30 % of hospital beds, that have combined their forces to set up a not-for-profit pharmaceutical company manufacturing generic medicines that are under market pressure, to ensure they can be obtained at a reasonable price. The access to Civica Rx's medicines thus enables hospitals and individuals to achieve often substantial savings on the medicines manufactured, forcing too pharmaceutical multinationals to lower their prices and guarantee supplies.

Will the Commission promote this example or, drawing inspiration from it, make it one of the main ingredients in winning back, as we must, our pharmaceutical sovereignty?