Question for written answer E-002499/2020 to the Commission

Rule 138

Gianna Gancia (ID), Matteo Adinolfi (ID), Angel Dzhambazki (ECR), Andrey Slabakov (ECR), Gilles Lebreton (ID), Tom Vandendriessche (ID), Aurelia Beigneux (ID), Virginie Joron (ID), Eugen Tomac (PPE), Milan Uhrík (NI), Lars Patrick Berg (ID), Joanna Kopcińska (ECR), Jadwiga Wiśniewska (ECR), Aldo Patriciello (PPE), Markus Buchheit (ID), Annika Bruna (ID), Maximilian Krah (ID), Romana Jerkovič (S&D), Elżbieta Kruk (ECR), Jean-Paul Garraud (ID)

Subject: The need to bring pharmaceutical production back to Europe

The health emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, which is affecting the entire European continent, has highlighted the worrying dependency of the European Union and its Member States on non-European pharmaceutical production, in particular from the People’s Republic of China.

A series of accurate articles published in the French newspaper Le Figaro has shown that China produces about 80% of the active ingredients used by our pharmaceutical industries, while also providing between 80% and 90% of the raw materials needed to produce those active ingredients.

The main cause of this situation is uncontrolled relocation to China and massive social dumping encouraged by the Chinese authorities themselves.

1. Can the Commission outline what financial support is being given to EU manufacturers to ensure there is less dependency on China in the near future and to promote the medical and pharmaceutical self-sufficiency of the European Union and its Member States?

2. Can the Commission outline what urgent measures it intends to take in order to encourage pharmaceutical production lines within the EU with a view to diversifying pharmaceutical supply, given the fundamental strategic significance of medical and pharmaceutical products, as sadly highlighted by the current health crisis?

Supporters

1 This question is supported by Members other than the authors: Carlo Fidanza (ECR), Francesca Donato (ID)