

Question for written answer E-004263/2020
to the Commission
Rule 138
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Subject: Centralised purchasing of a future COVID-19 vaccine

On 17 June 2020, the Commission unveiled its EU Vaccine Strategy to accelerate the development, manufacturing and centralised purchasing of vaccines against COVID-19. The purpose of this ambitious undertaking is to ensure that Europe comes together to beat the pandemic.

In the context of this strategy, an alliance has been formed to negotiate an advance purchase agreement to buy a specified number of vaccine doses for Europe's citizens in a given timeframe. In return, the alliance would approve prior funding for research and development costs in Europe.

However, since many pharmaceutical multinationals are developing promising initiatives in different timeframes, potential producers of a COVID-19 vaccine might not employ the framework proposed by this strategy.

Therefore, if a pharmaceutical company established outside the EU develops a COVID-19 vaccine:

Will the Commission use this centralised purchasing process to guarantee a non-speculative price so that Member States' national health systems are able to offer the vaccine to European citizens in a fair and non-discriminatory manner?