

**Question for written answer E-004460/2020
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Marc Botenga (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Exploitation obligations and intellectual property rights regarding publicly funded research

In the second call for R&D projects on COVID-19 under Horizon 2020, the Commission stipulated that in the context of the current public health emergency, additional exploitation obligations will have to ensure that results or resulting products/services will be available and accessible, as soon as possible and under fair conditions.

1. Will these requirements apply (retroactively) to the first call from March 2020 related to treatments and vaccines and/or, at the least, to all future calls?
2. Will these requirements be limited to the current public health emergency or will they be imposed more broadly?
3. Does the Commission agree that results from research that is wholly or partially funded by EU programmes or other public funds should in principle remain within the public domain?