

**Question for written answer E-006103/2020
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Marc Botenga (GUE/NGL)

Subject: Renegotiating with Gilead Sciences in view of the WHO Solidarity trial result

On 23 September 2020, the results of the WHO Solidarity trials were presented to pharmaceutical companies, including Gilead Sciences. These results indicate that remdesivir seemed to have little to no effect on 28-day mortality or the in-hospital course of COVID-19¹. On 8 October, the Commission concluded negotiations with Gilead on a joint procurement agreement for further deliveries of remdesivir valued at over EUR one billion². Despite the Commission's statement on 21 October that it will not comment on 'ongoing negotiations'³, in reality negotiations ended before 8 October.

1. Can the Commission now confirm or deny that, during negotiations, it or the European Medicines Agency were informed of the results of the WHO Solidarity trial regarding remdesivir?
2. If relevant, can the Commission now clarify why, unlike Gilead Sciences, it did not have access to the results of the WHO clinical trials?
3. Can the Commission now specify what action it will take to renegotiate the price or conditions of the contract, given that Gilead Sciences was aware of remdesivir's poor results during the Solidarity trials?

¹ <https://www.ft.com/content/d7ecca00-9cd1-4fff-bba0-567a0027c9db> (<https://www.ft.com/content/d7ecca00-9cd1-4fff-bba0-567a0027c9db>)

² https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_1845
(https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_1845)

³ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-9-2020-004458_EN.html
(https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-9-2020-004458_EN.html)