Question for written answer E-006463/2020 to the Commission
Rule 138
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Subject: State aid Temporary Framework and support for small and medium-sized enterprises

The State aid Temporary Framework has enabled Member States to provide all the liquidity that businesses need to face the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to the current situation, the framework still needs to be improved and extended to support businesses, especially small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), on the road to recovery. SMEs are still particularly exposed and some sectors are still suffering from administrative closures. All the temporary framework sections have been extended until June 2021 and recapitalisation support will now be available until September 2021.

1. Would the Commission consider an extension until 31 December 2021, since it is still impossible to predict when SMEs will be able to resume their activities in full?

2. In view of the continuing uncertainty surrounding the health situation, which is holding back recovery and forcing some firms to suspend or limit their activities, does the Commission intend to extend the deadlines for the repayment of State aid by extending the duration of aid in the form of loan guarantees and subsidised interest rates to ten years instead of the six years initially planned?