

**Question for written answer E-006589/2020  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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**Subject:** Availability of COVID-19 vaccine and return to travel by European citizens

With a view to implementing the European COVID-19 vaccination strategy, the Commission has today already concluded six pre-purchase contracts with vaccine manufacturers and is still engaged in negotiations with others with a view to widening the choice of vaccines to be produced by various different processes in Europe.

Following the Commission communication in October, Member States are accordingly drawing up detailed national plans in preparation for the delivery and distribution of vaccines. The Commission is expecting the first vaccines to be supplied towards the end of December 2020 and in January 2021.

Meanwhile, the transport sector is struggling to survive the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, with Airline losses worldwide estimated to total EUR 130 billion this year and the number of passengers dropping to 1.8 billion from 4.5 billion in 2019.

This dramatic fall in travel by European citizens throughout the year as a result of the pandemic has irretrievably undermined the EU transport sector.

In view of this, does the Commission have a comprehensive European transport recovery plan that can be put into place once the vaccine has been placed on the market, incorporating a joint coordinated strategy by all Member States and providing maximum health protection for European citizens?