Question for written answer E-007027/2020 to the Commission Rule 138 Vincenzo Sofo (ID)

Subject: Mandatory vaccination and health passport

The Commission's announcement on 27 December 2020 that distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine would now start sparked off a widespread political debate over whether or not vaccination should be made mandatory.

A large number of opinion polls have revealed that, owing to the unusually short production time, problems encountered during trials and a lack of transparency in the information provided, a high percentage of the EU public would prefer not to be vaccinated.

The French Government has already tabled a draft law to arrogate for itself from now on (even where COVID is not concerned) the power easily to make people's movements, access to public places or public transport, and their activities subject to the presentation of certificates attesting to their having undergone remedial forms of treatment.

Unlike a proper and comprehensive information campaign, the authoritarian approach adopted by France is alarming as it does away with the democratic procedures normally required before imposing restrictions on personal freedoms. In view of this, can the Commission answer the following questions:

- 1. Does the Commission consider that this initiative by the French Government should be censured, or replicated in other Member States too?
- Will it discourage the adoption of strategies such as mandatory vaccination or the use of restrictions on members of the public who decide not to be vaccinated?