

**Question for written answer E-000711/2021  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Virginie Joron (ID)**

**Subject:** COVID 'vaccines': the Commission is concealing the name of the person who signed the contracts

On 11 December 2020, Sanofi and GSK warned that their vaccines should not be expected before the end of 2021<sup>1</sup>.

On 22 January 2021, AstraZeneca then went on to state there would be delays in delivering its vaccines<sup>2</sup>. This sparked a dispute between the pharmaceutical company and the Commission.

1. Can the Commission say what provision has been made for penalties in the contracts drawn up between the European Union and the pharmaceutical companies in the event of a voluntary delay in delivery?
2. Why did the Commission release AstraZeneca from all liability with regard to the 'efficacy and safety' of the COVID vaccine (paragraph 15.1 of the contract) and in the event of any 'breach of contract' (paragraph 15.2 of the contract)? These issues are giving rise to legitimate concerns among consumers.
3. Why has it concealed the name of the person who signed the published AstraZeneca contract on behalf of the Commission?

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.lecho.be/entreprises/pharma-biotechnologie/sanofi-et-gsk-prennent-du-retard-dans-la-course-au-vaccin-anti-covid/10271267.html>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.france24.com/en/europe/20210126-european-union-warns-astrazeneca-over-delay-in-delivering-covid-19-vaccine>