Question for written answer E-001207/2021
to the Commission
Rule 138
Vincenzo Sofo (ECR)

Subject: Change in EU vaccine strategy

Given that the Commission granted a marketing authorisation for the COVID-19 vaccine developed by AstraZeneca, but that the number of doses to be delivered in the first quarter is half that specified in the contract and that this is likely to be repeated in the second quarter;

given that the problem of delays in deliveries and reductions in the number of doses also concerns other pharmaceutical companies supplying vaccines, such as Moderna and Pfizer;

given that the vaccines referred to in the Commission's advance purchase contracts with other pharmaceutical companies (Johnson & Johnson, Sanofi, CureVac, etc.) are not yet available;

can the Commission say what action it intends to take to compensate for the disruptions to the vaccination campaign, in particular to:

1. overcome the obstacle posed by the issue of patents and increase the production of vaccines already purchased;

2. speed up the approval of other vaccines already being distributed around the world in order to immediately increase and diversify availability (Sputnik V, SinoVac, etc.);

3. financially support European vaccines currently being tested in order to speed up their deployment (ReiThera, Takis, etc.)?