

**Question for written answer E-001416/2021  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Vaccines and protecting the rights of EU citizens

Pharmaceutical agencies in many Member States have, in the last few hours, suspended the use of some vaccine batches as a precautionary measure while awaiting clearer information on the risk of potentially serious side-effects.

Press sources report that efficient vaccine campaigns in some countries, such as the EU's neighbour Israel, are playing a vital role in cutting the number of new cases of infection, thereby proving the benefits of the vaccines.

This shows how essential it will be, once use of these vaccines resumes, to give EU citizens as much information as possible, and to vaccinate them as quickly as possible, so that this decision by pharmaceutical agencies to suspend some batches does not cause a slow-down in the pace of vaccinations.

In view of this situation, can the Commission answer the following questions:

1. What is its assessment of the precautionary suspension of some vaccines by many Member States, including Denmark, Bulgaria, Italy?
2. What action will it take, once the proper checks have been done, to give citizens clear and reliable information on the risks and possible side-effects linked to specific vaccine batches?
3. What legal instruments will it deploy to protect EU citizens' rights in the event that any serious side-effects are proven and confirmed?