

**Question for written answer E-002563/2021  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Daniel Buda (PPE)**

Subject: European confidence in COVID-19 vaccines

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused a staggering number of deaths and severe or very serious infections; it has sent shockwaves through society due to the quarantine decisions affecting nearly all European states and has been economically devastating for the majority of business sectors. This crisis, unprecedented in the lifetime of the European Union, called for quick and safe solutions to allow life to get back to normal, these solutions being the mass vaccination of the population.

In early March, a batch of the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine was found that could be closely linked to certain blood clotting disorders and is being linked, fairly hastily, to more deaths in the EU. Given that COVID-19 vaccines were already up against a tide of scepticism, this is only going to aggravate the conspiracy theories and further deter vaccine sceptics.

By what mechanism can the Commission avoid a significant wave of COVID-19 vaccine refusals and, most importantly, ensure that future vaccine batches are not surrounded by similar suspicions?