

**Question for written answer E-002568/2021  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Slow vaccination roll-out in Europe

The World Health Organization recently criticised the extremely slow COVID-19 vaccination roll-out in Europe, according to a recent AFP report.

A total of 11.7% of the EU's population have received their first vaccination, while in the US the figure is 30%. Only 5% of EU citizens have received their second vaccine dose, compared to 15.9% across the Atlantic.

Progress in other European countries, mainly in the former Eastern bloc, is much slower, e.g. Bulgaria (5.4%) and Latvia (6.1%) in the EU, and Ukraine (0.6%), the Republic of Moldova (1%), Montenegro (3.1%) and Albania (4.1%) outside the EU. Israel, the United Kingdom, Russia, Turkey and the former Soviet republics of Central Asia have administered a quarter of the 596 million doses available globally, even though they account for only 12% of the world's population.

What is the Commission's strategy for speeding up the vaccination roll-out?