Question for written answer E-003273/2021 to the Commission Rule 138 Tudor Ciuhodaru (S&D)

Subject: Covid self-testing kits

A range of self-testing kits for the rapid detection of the Covid virus have appeared on the European market in recent weeks, providing a quick result to anyone who wants this. According to the information on the packaging, the tests are manufactured outside the European Union, in the US or China, and are purchased and subsequently distributed by European firms, giving the end beneficiary an unjustified mark-up.

On top of this, several European countries have been granted approval by the Commission to use EU funding to screen for the virus and vaccinate their citizens.

- 1. Given there are large research institutes in Europe which are receiving EU funding, why is there any need to purchase these tests from third countries?
- 2. Which European companies have been approved by the Commission for this kind of activity and what funding has been allocated to that end?