Question for written answer E-003750/2021 to the Commission Rule 138 Eva Kaili (S&D)

Subject: Compulsory vaccination and employees' rights

Some Member States have recently implied that they are not ruling out making vaccination compulsory for employees other than healthcare workers and some have even introduced financial rewards for vaccinated individuals. There have also been public statements about subjecting people who are not vaccinated to severe restrictions, including threatening employees with job losses and/or discrimination.

The World Health Organization and several expert committees have urged the EU to ensure that vaccination is not made mandatory and that no one may be discriminated against because they choose not to be vaccinated. In view of these reports, I would like to ask the Commission the following questions:

- 1. What is the Commission doing to ensure that such practices are discouraged, prevented and/or even carefully assessed given that coercion tends to cause moral disengagement and undermine trust between residents and the country's institutions?
- 2. Given that there is no indication as to whether obligatory vaccination is lawful, how can a democratic EU ensure that other options are available to employees who may be reluctant or refuse to have the COVID-19 vaccination, until a drug treatment is authorised?
- 3. In view of the above, has the Commission carried out an extensive assessment of the legality of the employment practices currently in place, as well as the effects the various lockdowns have had on the protection of human rights and civil liberties?