

**Question for written answer E-004002/2021
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Virginie Joron (ID)

Subject: Towards obligatory COVID-19 vaccination in Europe

The European Medicines Agency reports that COVID-19 vaccines have resulted in fatal outcomes in 5 000 cases in the European Union (approximately 4 198 for the Pfizer vaccine¹ and 1 053 for AstraZeneca's²), although exact causality is difficult to ascertain. The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) has stated that vaccines may be somewhat less effective in protecting against certain new variants.³

Against this backdrop, the French Government has mandated that children aged 12 to 17 must be vaccinated by 30 September 2021. Since 9 August 2021, people have needed to show a *passe sanitaire* (health pass) to enter access cafés or shops or use public transport in France.⁴ Although there is an alternative – repeated PCR tests – undergoing testing so frequently would not be without risks and heavy constraints, especially for the children or workers concerned. In France, foreigners must already pay for such tests, and they will cease to be free for French nationals from mid-October.⁵

1. Which Member States have made vaccination mandatory for entering or working in premises serving the public (schools, cafés, etc.) in Europe ?
2. Has the European Medicines Agency made vaccination against COVID-19 mandatory for its staff and their children?
3. Is the Commission working on a plan to make COVID-19 vaccination mandatory throughout the European Union?

¹ https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/documents/covid-19-vaccine-safety-update/covid-19-vaccine-safety-update-comirnaty-11-august-2021_en.pdf

² https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/documents/covid-19-vaccine-safety-update/covid-19-vaccine-safety-update-vaxzevria-previously-covid-19-vaccine-astrazeneca-11-august-2021_en.pdf

³ <https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/covid-19/latest-evidence/vaccines>

⁴ <https://www.gouvernement.fr/info-coronavirus/pass-sanitaire>

⁵ Unless prescribed by a doctor (<https://www.femmeactuelle.fr/actu/news-actu/covid-19-les-tests-de-depistage-bientot-payants-2117811>).