

**Question for written answer E-004022/2021
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Lefteris Nikolaou-Alavanos (NI)

Subject: Suspension of non-vaccinated health workers

The ND Government has announced that healthcare and social workers who have not been vaccinated will face suspension without pay, social insurance cover or service record entries. This is effectively transforming the vaccine into a weapon that is being turned against working people while encouraging social automatism.

Employers eager to get onto the bandwagon are declaring vaccination to be the 'individual responsibility' of workers, threatening them with suspension or dismissal and making them pay for rapid tests.

In view of this:

1. What view does the Commission take of the fact that, in the midst of the fourth wave of the pandemic, the Government, acting on EU guidelines, is refusing to take the necessary measures to effectively bolster the public health system in terms of staff, resources and infrastructure, to protect against the pandemic at the workplace and on public transport and to speed up the vaccination programme in a responsible manner, keeping the public properly informed?
2. What view does it take of the fact that compulsory vaccination, which could be limited to specific categories of workers and made subject to strict conditions, in a bid to improve public health services, is instead being used by the Greek Government as an 'instrument' to conceal long-standing government responsibilities for the desperate plight of the public health system?
3. What view does it take of the fact that compulsory vaccination is also being encouraged as a means of encouraging social automatism through the dismissal of those who do not comply, this being clearly part of a more comprehensive strategy by the EU and the national governments to promote health as a commodity, targeting working people and relying heavily on the Recovery Fund for this purpose?