Question for written answer E-004541/2021
to the Commission
Rule 138
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Subject: Strategy on COVID-19 therapeutics – latest developments

On 26 June, a press release was published by the Commission announcing the first portfolio of five therapeutics that could soon be available for treating COVID-19 patients across the European Union.

Of these therapeutics, four are monoclonal antibodies under rolling review by the European Medicines Agency, while the fifth is an immunosuppressant, the marketing authorisation for which could be extended to cover the treatment of COVID-19 patients.

Despite the high average vaccination rate in Europe, the debate (including in the plenary chamber) on the EU vaccine strategy still tends to fuel doubt among users as to whether the vaccine actually does protect and whether it is safe.

Given that producing vaccines for the whole world might not be sufficient to counter the emergence of dangerous variants, it is becoming increasingly important to flank the EU vaccine strategy with an effective strategy on therapeutic tools with which to combat COVID-19.

In view of the above:

1. What are the latest developments in scientific research into treatment and what therapeutics have already been authorised and put into production?

2. When is safe treatment likely to be available?

3. How much funding has been allocated so far?