Question for written answer E-005115/2021 to the Commission Rule 138 Luděk Niedermayer (PPE)

Subject: The closure of the Chinese medical technology market to EU production

In recent years, there has been a clear trend that has seen China close off its medical technology market to external production in every possible way, including slow certification processes and discrimination against importers in public procurement.

This year, businesses have spoken of further drop-offs in purchases by Chinese hospitals. In practice, only Chinese medical devices have been purchased as part of tenders.

The European market, by contrast, is open to Chinese medical technology. This could lead to a significant disparity to the detriment of European producers.

- 1. Does the Commission have any data to confirm the growing asymmetry of trade in this area?
- 2. If so, how could the EU help its medical technology producers access the Chinese market, including tenders?
- 3. Will the Commission reconsider the EU's modus operandi towards China and put forward a toolbox to swiftly respond to emerging cases of a lack of reciprocity and of asymmetry with China, including regulatory barriers to trade?