

**Question for written answer E-005601/2021  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Andrzej Halicki (PPE), Adam Jarubas (PPE)**

Subject: Services provided by pharmacies

In many Member States, pharmacies not only sell medication but also provide a range of health services. This considerably reduces the burden on health care systems, as pharmacies are thus the patient's closest point of contact where they can have their blood pressure taken or receive first aid.

Unfortunately, due to a misinterpretation of the law, pharmacies in Poland are not allowed to provide the services mentioned above. A clause in one of the laws regarding the prohibition of advertising also means that pharmacies cannot advertise that they provide any health services, such as COVID-19 vaccinations. This leads to many absurd scenarios, with patients sharing information on pharmacies which offer vaccinations, as the pharmacies themselves cannot publicise this information anywhere.

This is the basis of a complaint submitted to the Commission under reference INFR(2018)4028. In light of the urgent need to alter the law which restricts patient access to information on vaccinations and other services provided by pharmacies, I would like to ask the following:

1. What is the current situation regarding the above-mentioned complaint?
2. Is the Commission in contact with the Polish Government in order to resolve this problem?
3. What solutions can the Commission propose to Poland in order to improve the current situation?