

Question for written answer E-000105/2022
to the Commission
Rule 138
Jordi Cañas (Renew)

Subject: Price differences for antigen tests in the EU and their sale in shops

Against a backdrop of increased demand driven by rising COVID-19 cases, some Member States have temporarily allowed antigen tests to be sold in supermarkets, while the Spanish Government has rejected this measure and allows tests to be sold only in pharmacies.

As a result, the average test price in Spain is 213% higher than the prices in Member States where tests can be sold in sales outlets other than pharmacies. This unjustifiable price difference violates consumer rights in the single market, making it particularly difficult for poorer households to access such tests, and undermines the ability to control the pandemic.

In view of the above:

1. What measures will the Commission take to bridge the gap in antigen test prices, to guarantee equal access to such tests and to ensure that COVID-19 cases can be identified and prevented across the EU?
2. In the Commission's view, should Member States temporarily allow antigen tests to be sold in shops?
3. Does the Commission intend to establish a common strategy for such sales?