

Question for written answer E-000214/2022
to the Commission
Rule 138
Filip De Man (ID)

Subject: Medicines produced in third countries: possible health risks

The production of medicines is a complex process that must be carried out according to the highest quality standards. However, it has largely been outsourced to countries such as India and China because production is cheapest there. This short-sighted pursuit of profit is costing the EU precious jobs and goes hand in hand with technology transfer, as a result of which both the countries referred to threaten to compete with the EU in the development of new medicines and thus acquire a competitive, dominant position vis-à-vis the EU. In addition, it is not clear whether production in India and China meets the same strict quality standards as in the EU.

Has the Commission identified the health risks arising from the relocation of medicines production to the lowest-wage countries?