

Question for written answer E-000291/2022
to the Commission
Rule 138
Cindy Franssen (PPE)

Subject: Booster shots for 12- to 17-year-olds and possible obstruction of free movement of persons

In the fight against the coronavirus, the various vaccines have proved indispensable in recent months. Partly due to the emergence of new variants, Member States are currently administering so-called booster shots to their citizens.

Several Member States, such as Austria and Italy, are limiting the validity of their version of the EU Digital COVID Certificate to six months, making it necessary, in many cases, to get a booster. As the European Medicines Agency has not yet authorised the third injection for 12-17 year olds, many Member States are still waiting to administer it to this age group. It will be very difficult for these young people to travel to the Member States concerned if they do not have a COVID recovery certificate.

1. Does the Commission consider that this constitutes an obstacle to the free movement of persons? What can the Commission do to resolve this situation?
2. Although these are national decisions, does the Commission consider them to be proportionate?
3. Is the Commission able to urge the European Medicines Agency to take a decision on this matter?