Subject: Protection of fundamental rights in the EU during the COVID-19 pandemic

In order to address social change and developments in society, science and technology, the European Union has decided on a single text in which to combine citizens’ personal, civil, political, economic and social rights: the Charter of Fundamental Rights

The Charter comprises 54 articles guaranteeing the rights and freedoms of EU citizens, divided into six headings: dignity, freedoms, equality, solidarity, citizens' rights and justice.

In addition to protection in the area of justice, freedom and citizens’ rights, the Charter covers third-generation fundamental rights that go beyond the civil and social spheres and include data protection, guarantees in respect of bioethics and administrative transparency.

In its answer to written question E-004702/2021, the Commission stated that it is ‘determined to protect fundamental rights as enshrined in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU, including respect for human dignity, equality and non-discrimination, insofar as situations are concerned that fall within the scope of EU law.’

Can the Commission state clearly how it will show its determination to protect the fundamental rights enshrined in the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights during the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly as regards potential violations of those rights by prohibiting people with rapid antigen test certificates from accessing activities and services?