

**Question for written answer E-002373/2022  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Eva Kaili (S&D)**

Subject: Establishing a new 'investment acquisitions' procedure

EU Competition Law is an important and efficient vehicle for financial and social development and for innovation in times of prosperity or crisis, thus leading to long term-improvement in peoples' lives.

Acquisitions are one of the most powerful weapons in this field, and can be used either negatively or positively. They can benefit the few at the expense of the many, as happens with so called 'killer acquisitions', which are rightfully being targeted by the Commission through a new interpretation of Article 22 EU Merger Regulation<sup>1</sup>. Alternatively, they can benefit our economies and societies through 'investment acquisitions', which enable in practice innovative and pioneering projects, ideas, discoveries and SME and start-up patents if they lack the necessary capital to go ahead as soon as possible. However, if they are prevented or even just delayed, their momentum will be lost – to the benefit of international competition and to the detriment of the EU and its citizens.

Given the above:

Will the Commission consider adopting new legislation providing for a fast track procedure or mechanism to allow innovative investment acquisitions as soon as possible in the EU?

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<sup>1</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/commissioners/2019-2024/vestager/announcements/future-eu-merger-control\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/commissioners/2019-2024/vestager/announcements/future-eu-merger-control_en) .