

**Question for written answer E-003051/2022/rev.1
to the Commission
Rule 138
Marcel de Graaff (NI)**

Subject: The report that von der Leyen negotiated 1.8 billion corona vaccines with Pfizer on her own

The Court of Auditors has reported that the Commission's procurement of COVID-19 vaccines was deficient. The bottom line is that the contracts with vaccine manufacturers lacked hard outcome obligations (such as delivery schedules) and concrete compliance mechanisms. To make matters worse, Commission President Ursula von der Leyen negotiated on her own.¹

Despite all this, the Court of Auditors did not comment on the dangers, ineffectiveness or rule of law aspects of COVID-19 vaccinations. This is remarkable as these aspects are an important part of the effectiveness and legality test that the Court of Auditors is required to carry out.

1. Does the Commission not find it scandalous that it is only too happy to portray countries like Hungary, Poland and Russia as corrupt and unreliable, but meanwhile is willing to enter into a multi-billion euro contract with Pfizer – without any transparency whatsoever – for an unsafe and ineffective vaccine and do so entirely of its own accord?
2. Does the Commission not find it reprehensible to waste precious taxpayers' money on vaccine contracts that do not even contain hard outcome obligations and compliance mechanisms?
3. Does the Commission share the view that the Court of Auditor's conclusions are too softly worded as it did not investigate the safety and effectiveness of the vaccines, nor the contracts entered into with Pfizer (which the Commission – despite an explicit request to do so – has also deliberately omitted to do)?

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¹ <https://www.volkskrant.nl/nieuws-achtergrond/von-der-leyen-onderhandelde-op-eigen-houtje-met-pfizer-over-1-8-miljard-coronavaccins-en-weigert-opheldering~b0c4cd94/>