

**Question for written answer E-000074/2023
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Maria Spyra (PPE)

Subject: Shortage of medicines

Shortages of medicines in Europe owing to interruptions or reductions in the production and supply of the necessary raw materials from China and India have been exacerbated by an early wave of influenza¹².

Price increases for hitherto cheap pharmaceutical products are being envisaged as a possible means of combating global shortages, provided that patients do not bear the brunt of such a measure.

Given the disastrous impact of these growing shortages on patients in the EU:

1. What information can the Commission provide regarding the extent of the problem and what immediate measures will it take to tackle it and to step up the production of pharmaceuticals in Europe?
2. What funding is available to Member States to encourage increased production and absorb potential price increases?

Submitted: 11.1.2023

¹ <https://www.iefimerida.gr/ygeia/gkagka-ianoyariou-exomalynthoyn-elleipseis-farmaka>

² <https://www.news247.gr/koinonia/gkagka-afise-anoichto-to-endechomeno-tis-ayxisis-tis-timis-fthinon-farmakon.9891542.html>