

Question for written answer E-000437/2023
to the Commission
Rule 138
Virginie Joron (ID)

Subject: COVID-19: the Commission orders half a billion doses of the Pfizer COVID vaccine in 2023

On 29 April 2022, three EU Member States asked the Commission to terminate COVID-19 vaccine contracts and stop deliveries¹. Ten Member States backed this request, arguing that the 'quantities exceed countries' needs'², and asked for a response by 16 June 2022.

However, according to Reuters, although negotiations are still ongoing, the Commission has reportedly committed to buying almost half a billion doses of the Pfizer vaccine in 2023, at a total cost of EUR 8-10 billion to be paid by the Member States. Deliveries have been planned for 2024 despite Brussels recognising that there is a 'mismatch between supply and demand' and that Member States have 'no desire to spend money on unneeded doses'³.

1. Can the Commission confirm how many Member States have asked it to stop deliveries of Pfizer vaccines and whether this includes France?
2. Can the Commission confirm and inform the Members of the COVI Committee how many unneeded doses must be paid for in 2023 and 2024?
3. Can the Commission specify how many doses of the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines France is obliged to buy, as well as the cost to the French taxpayer, in 2023 and 2024?

Submitted: 13.2.2023

¹ <https://lrvt/en/news/joint-letter-of-the-prime-ministers-of-the-baltic-states-to-eu-commission-president-on-covid-19-vaccines>

² <https://www.euractiv.com/section/coronavirus/news/10-eu-countries-call-for-more-flexibility-in-vaccine-contracts/>

³ <https://www.reuters.com/business/healthcare-pharmaceuticals/eu-may-pay-more-pfizer-covid-shots-return-lower-volume-2023-01-27/>