

**Question for written answer E-001128/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Harald Vilimsky (ID), Georg Mayer (ID)

Subject: Leaked interview with a Pfizer employee

Project Veritas, a whistle-blowing platform, recently leaked a conversation with a Pfizer employee. It revealed that the company was considering 'gain-of-function' research, i.e. artificially mutating viruses for the development of new vaccines, and that it had concealed significant mRNA vaccine side effects.

1. What is the Commission's position on 'gain-of-function' as a research method?
2. It is quite possible that the virus emerged as a result of 'gain-of-function' research in China. Was the Commission aware of the risk posed by this research method, and if so, did it draw up contingency plans in advance?
3. The leaks showed that, although Pfizer was aware of various side effects, it did not publish them. Does the Commission intend to provide clarification, or will it continue its involvement in the concealment of this information?

Submitted: 3.4.2023