

**Question for written answer E-003715/2023  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**César Luena (S&D)**

Subject: March-in rights concerning patents for pharmaceuticals

On 7 December 2023 US President Joe Biden announced that his administration was looking into ways to reduce health-care costs for US citizens. Among the proposed measures he announced were empowering the administration to seize patents on drugs whose development was subsidised by the taxpayer and to license them to other manufacturers if prices are excessively high. This new framework, which allows US agencies to use so-called 'march-in' rights, is intended to ensure that taxpayers, who fund drug research through their taxes, have access to medicines.

In the light of the above:

1. What is the Commission's view of the measures taken by President Biden?
2. Does it intend to promote similar measures to curb predatory pricing by large pharmaceutical companies in Europe?

Submitted: 19.12.2023