Question for oral answer O-000067/2020
to the Commission
Rule 136
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Subject: Transparency of the advance purchase agreements for COVID-19 vaccines

Parliament has welcomed the EU strategy for COVID-19 vaccines and the Commission’s commitment to support efforts to accelerate the development, availability and affordability of safe and effective vaccines in a much shorter time frame than usual through the advance purchase agreements. In its resolution of 10 July 2020 on the EU’s public health strategy post-COVID-19, Parliament called on the Commission and the Member States ‘to incorporate collective safeguards in favour of the public regarding public funding, such as transparency, accessibility and affordability clauses and non-exclusive licences for the exploitation of the final products, in all current and future calls for funding and investment’. Transparency is crucial to ensuring trust in the EU institutions and future COVID-19 vaccines.

1. In line with the principle of sincere cooperation, will the Commission provide Parliament with access to the provisions in the advance purchase agreements related to intellectual property arrangements, including any arrangements linked to non-exclusive licencing, liability and indemnification, and those related to access to the vaccine, including for third countries?

2. Do the contracts require pharmaceutical companies to disclose how they are spending the public money they receive (R&D costs, production costs, etc.), and if so, when?

3. Do the contracts require the public disclosure of clinical trial data prior to the approval of any vaccine?

Submitted: 20/10/2020

Lapses: 21/01/2021