

**Priority question for written answer P-004437/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Michiel Hoogeveen (ECR), Charlie Weimers (ECR)

Subject: PCR test machines and EVAg

In question E-005649/2020¹ the Commission answered that the Wuhan Institute of Virology (WIV), where COVID-19 could have originated, was 'instrumental in identifying SARS-Cov2 as COVID-19 causative agent and in generating the genome sequence published on 12 January 2020 and that this information was necessary to develop the PCR assay, developed by EVA partner Humboldt University'.

It has been reported that the WIV had already purchased a PCR test machine in November 2019.

1. Could the purchase of a PCR test machine be funded by EVAg (European Virus Archive global)?
2. Can the Commission provide information about whether the WIV purchased a PCR test machine in November 2019 and whether the EVAg funded this purchase?
3. Can the Commission provide information about how many PCR test machines EVAg partners have bought per month since September 2019, if possible per location and whether these were funded by the EU?

¹ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-9-2020-005649_EN.html