Priority question for written answer P-003353/2022 to the Commission

Rule 138

Christine Anderson (ID)

Subject: Action Plan against Disinformation and German 'Protect yourself and others by getting

vaccinated' campaign

As part of the measures to tackle COVID-19, the Commission also touted vaccination as a promising solution. Member States adopted the same narrative and took it further by calling for social solidarity. The German Ministry of Public Health, for example, in a communication titled 'Protect yourself and others by getting vaccinated' said among other things that vaccination not only offers protection to the recipient but also indirectly to unvaccinated people by preventing or limiting the spread of a contagious disease.

However, this clearly does not apply to the COVID-19 vaccine, as bluntly admitted by Janine Small from Pfizer during the Special Committee on COVID-19 on 10 October 2022, when she stated that they did not even know whether it would prevent transmission before it entered the market.

- 1. Does the Commission know where the 'Protect yourself and others by getting vaccinated' statement originally came from in relation to the COVID-19 vaccine, when even the manufacturer does not make such a claim?
- 2. Has the Commission ever made any statements to that effect?
- 3. Will the Commission use the same vigour with which it called for vaccination (advertising campaigns, etc.) to combat related disinformation to make clear that the recognised COVID-19 vaccines do not prevent infection and that vaccination is not a solidarity measure to protect others?