Priority question for written answer P-003461/2022 to the Commission

Rule 138

Francesca Donato (NI)

Subject: Purchase of COVID-19 vaccines

In view of the recent hearings that took place in the COVI Committee, the findings of the European Ombudsman and European Court of Auditors, and the recent investigation opened by EPPO,

can the Commission say:

- 1. Why it signed in 2020 for the purchase of 10 COVID-19 vaccine doses per EU citizen, creating such a surplus in supply that the doses are now reaching expiry and will need to be destroyed, especially when there was no talk of booster shots back then?
- 2. Whether, in view of the current economic crisis and given that the virus is severely weakened and is no longer a threat to healthy individuals, that the vast majority of citizens now have immunity to it and that there are thus no longer any grounds to recommend widespread vaccination, it will renegotiate the clauses of the vaccine purchase agreement with Pfizer for 2023 onwards so as to avoid causing any more losses for Member States and wasting European taxpayers' money?
- 3. If the purchase price agreed upon with Pfizer is fixed or if it can be increased at the manufacturer's discretion?