Priority question for written answer P-003463/2022/rev.1
to the Commission
Rule 138
Virginie Joron (ID)

Subject: COVID-19: Does Commission authorisation mean that vaccine manufacturers are liable for compensating victims of toxic side effects?

According to the versions of the contracts leaked online, COVID-19 vaccine manufacturers were subject to no liability during the 'experimental' phase following the issue of conditional authorisation by the European Medicines Agency (EMA) and the Commission on 21 December 2020, the Member States apparently having undertaken to compensate any complainants in their stead. This was confirmed in the press and at the hearings of the Special Committee on the COVID-19 pandemic (COVI) in Parliament.

In early October 2022, the Pfizer, Moderna and AstraZeneca vaccines all received standard authorisation from the EMA and the Commission[1]. The bivalent Pfizer and Moderna vaccines were also granted standard authorisation on 12 September and 20 October 2022 respectively.

In the event, the EMA recorded 1 546 166 toxic side effects, 11 265 of which were fatal[2].

1. Can the Commission forward to Members on the COVI Committee copies of the contracts and all COVID-19 documentation in the hands of the Commission and its agencies?

2. Are the laboratories (Pfizer, Moderna, etc.) responsible for compensating victims of the toxic side effects of COVID-19 vaccines administered from the day on which the standard marketing authorisation was issued by the Commission?

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[1] https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/human-regulatory/overview/public-health-threats/coronavirus-disease-covid-19/treatments-vaccines/vaccines-covid-19/covid-19-vaccines-authorised

[2] https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/documents/covid-19-vaccine-safety-update/covid-19-vaccines-safety-update-6-october-2022_en.pdf