

**Major interpellation for written answer G-001003/2024  
to the Commission**

Rule 145

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on behalf of the ESN Group

**Subject:** Strengthening transparency, accountability and public trust in EU health policy

The COVID-19 crisis and its aftermath have highlighted significant concerns regarding transparency, accountability and democratic oversight within EU health policy. Questions remain around the decision-making processes during the pandemic and their implications for European citizens, both now and in the future. Addressing these concerns is essential to restoring and maintaining public trust in EU institutions and ensuring the effective management of future health crises.

We seek clarity on several critical issues in this context and would appreciate the Commission's insights on the following:

**1. Transparency:**

(a) Going forward, how will the Commission ensure the full disclosure of communications with pharmaceutical companies?

(b) Has the Commission's position on transparency with regard to the as-yet-unclarified communications between Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and Pfizer CEO Albert Bourla evolved?

**2. Liability and responsibility:**

(a) Does the Commission agree that it is responsible for compensating victims of vaccine-related injuries, given that it was the Commission's contract design that released manufacturers from liability?

(b) What specific measures are planned to establish adequate compensation mechanisms, such as establishing a compensation fund at EU level, and corporate liability in cases of vaccination side effects?

**3. Crisis management and democratic control:**

(a) How will the Commission ensure proportionality in restrictions on fundamental rights during future health crises?

(b) What concrete actions will be taken to address the influence of pharmaceutical companies on decision-making processes?

**4. Investigation of COVID-19 measures:**

(a) How does the Commission plan to address the censorship of critical voices on social media platforms during the pandemic?

(b) What is the Commission's position on formally recognising and recording post-vaccine syndrome and other vaccination-related side effects?

(c) How will the role of the beneficiaries of COVID-19 measures (such as mask suppliers, test centres and vaccine manufacturers) in relation to government funding be reviewed?

(d) What steps will the Commission take to evaluate the effectiveness of vaccines against the initial claims regarding virus transmission?

(e) How does the Commission intend to assess the proportionality of the pandemic measures and their impact on fundamental rights?

(f) What mechanisms are envisioned for compensating individuals affected by COVID-19 measures or vaccination side effects?

Given the importance of these issues for public trust and effective future crisis management, we would appreciate the Commission's detailed response on these matters. These topics reflect the serious concerns of our constituents and require thorough discussion as we progress with EU health policy.

We look forward to the Commission's response and to a constructive dialogue on these important matters.

Submitted: 5.12.2024