

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002641/24
to the Commission
João Oliveira (The Left)
(23 November 2024)**

Subject: Court of Justice of the European Union decision and the need to disclose vaccine purchase conditions

The Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) has concluded that the European Commission, led by Ursula von der Leyen, did not provide wide enough access to the vaccine purchase agreements concluded with COVID-19 vaccine manufacturers and that irregularities took place in the decision to conceal parts of those agreements.

The contracts the European Commission concluded with a number of multinational pharmaceutical companies by way of public-private partnerships involved billions of euros of public money, but failed to secure property rights over the scientific and pharmaceutical advances achieved.

The European Public Prosecutor's Office has an ongoing investigation into 'Pfizergate', which involves Ursula von der Leyen personally in direct negotiations with the Pfizer CEO to purchase vaccines.

Following the CJEU decision and previous queries that have gone unanswered, can the Commission urgently say:

What were the individual responsibilities of each member of the Commission, including President von der Leyen, in negotiations?

Submitted: 23.11.2024

**Answer given by Ms Lahbib on behalf of the European Commission
(24 March 2025)**

As the Commission pointed out in its reply to Written Question E-000814/2023 ⁽¹⁾, in line with the EU Vaccines Strategy ⁽²⁾, the Commission and the Member States have taken a common EU approach to securing COVID-19 vaccine supplies and facilitating their distribution.

An Agreement ⁽³⁾ was concluded between the Commission and the Member States allowing the Commission to procure COVID-19 vaccines on behalf of the Member States and related procedures.

This Agreement established a Steering Board, where all Member States are represented, to provide guidance throughout the evaluation process, as well as a Joint Negotiation Team composed of Commission officials and Member States representatives to carry out the negotiations.

In accordance with the Agreement, individual Commissioners, including the President of the Commission, did not have any role in negotiations.

Agreements concluded by the Commission on behalf of the Member States have been signed by the Commissioner for Health and Food Safety, following a decision of the Commission as a college.

⁽¹⁾ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-9-2023-000814-ASW_EN.html

⁽²⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52020DC0245>

⁽³⁾ COM(2020)4192 final: https://commission.europa.eu/publications/commissions-centralised-eu-approach_en