

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002717/25
to the Commission
Gerald Hauser (P/E)
(3 July 2025)**

Subject: Negotiations on the supply of COVID-19 vaccines and Austria's participation therein

Commissioner Hadja Lahbib's reply, dated 26 July 2025, to Written Question E-001495/2025 ⁽¹⁾ reads as follows:

‘The (Advanced) Purchase Agreements for the supply of COVID-19 vaccines to the Member States were concluded in full transparency with the Member States. Negotiations were carried out by a Joint Negotiation Team that consisted of representatives of the Commission and of several Member States. This team reported regularly to a Vaccines Steering Board co-chaired by the Commission and a Participating Member State, which provided guidance throughout the process. The Commission has provided information to the Parliament on a continuous basis, in line with its Treaty obligations and the framework Agreement on relations between the two institutions’.

1. Please provide the names of the members of the negotiation team and the steering committee.
2. Which Austrians were involved in concluding the negotiations, and who signed the agreement on behalf of Austria?
3. How often was Austria kept informed during the negotiations, and what information was provided?

Submitted: 3.7.2025

**Answer given by Ms Lahbib on behalf of the European Commission
(3 September 2025)**

The Joint Negotiation Team (JNT) was composed of experts from France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Spain, Sweden, and the Netherlands, with Sweden later replaced by Portugal together with Commission's officials.

The Vaccines Steering Board included representatives of all EU Member States. The Commission is not in a position to disclose the names of individual JNT or Board members, including from Austria, as disclosure of this type of information would undermine the protection of the privacy of these individuals in accordance with EU data protection legislation ⁽¹⁾. All participants were appointed by their respective governments ⁽²⁾.

The Board was kept informed by the JNT throughout the negotiation process via regular meetings, where updates on the state of play were provided on a continuous basis.

The Board discussed and reviewed all aspects of the (Advance) Purchase Agreements for COVID-19 vaccines before they were signed by the Commission on behalf of the Member States.

All Member States had the opportunity to comment on contractual clauses and were granted opt-out periods in case they chose not to participate in a particular agreement.

¹ https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/E-10-2025-001495_EN.html

⁽¹⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2018/1725/oj/eng>.

⁽²⁾ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/qanda_20_1662.