

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002718/25
to the Commission
Gerald Hauser (Pfe)
(3 July 2025)**

Subject: Liability and compensation for vaccine damage caused by COVID-19 vaccines

In the answer to Question E-001495/2025 ⁽¹⁾ dated 23 June 2025, Commissioner Hadja Lahbib wrote:

‘A citizen who has suffered adverse effects from one of the COVID-19 vaccines purchased under the contracts can claim damages against the manufacturer of the vaccine.’

That was accompanied by a footnote:

‘If the claim is successful, the Member State that administered the vaccine can, under certain conditions, be responsible for compensating the injured party and paying the vaccine manufacturer’s legal costs (indemnification).’

1. How exactly can persons harmed by vaccines claim damages (whom do they have to contact, how do they make their claim, etc.)?
2. How often, to date, has such a claim been successful?
3. Under what conditions is a Member State obliged to pay damages to persons who have been harmed and cover the vaccine manufacturer's legal costs?

Submitted: 3.7.2025

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

The procedure to claim compensation for damages presumably resulting from administered COVID-19 is regulated by the laws of the Member States. National legal frameworks provide citizens with rights concerning the applicable procedure, such as the ability to file the claim in their national courts.

The Commission does not keep records on the number of successful claims against Member States related to adverse events from COVID-19 vaccines.

Legal responsibility for the damages lies with the vaccine manufacturers. However, under the (Advance) Purchase Agreements for COVID-19 vaccines, Member States indemnify vaccine manufacturers for the compensation of damages and legal costs on the condition that the claim is successful, except in certain cases, for instance where the damages result from wilful misconduct or a failure to comply with EU good manufacturing practices by the vaccine manufacturers.

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