

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003557/25  
to the Commission  
Leire Pajín (S&D), Vytenis Povilas Andriukaitis (S&D)  
(16 September 2025)**

*Subject:* The Commission's announcement of the global health resilience initiative

In her 2025 State of the Union address, Commission President Ursula von der Leyen announced that the EU will lead a new global health resilience initiative, aimed at tackling global health disinformation and strengthening global preparedness.

While the political ambition and announcement that the EU must take the lead on global health are welcome, the initiative comes at a time when global health funding is under severe pressure. However, the details of the initiative remain unclear. Notably, the initiative was not included in the letter of intent accompanying the address, and no financial envelope or implementation mechanism was announced.

1. Can the Commission provide further details on the scope, objectives and expected activities, including with international partners, under the global health resilience initiative, and how this will complement existing initiatives, such as the global health strategy?
2. What is the timeline for the development and implementation of this initiative, and which Commission services or directorates-general will be responsible?
3. Will the initiative include dedicated funding, either from the EU budget, existing health programmes, such as EU4Health, or other instruments, such as the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument or its potential substitute?

Submitted: 16.9.2025

**Answer given by Mr Várhelyi on behalf of the European Commission  
(14 November 2025)**

As the President of the Commission outlined in the State of the Union speech of 10 September 2025 <sup>(1)</sup>, the EU and the world is not immune to potential future global health crises, which can result in high human and economic costs, as witnessed with the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Commission recalls that, since 2020, building on the lessons of the COVID-19 pandemic, it has already contributed to the putting in place of a robust European Health Union, including a new Regulation on Serious Cross-Border Health Threats <sup>(2)</sup> and strengthened mandates for the European health agencies <sup>(3)</sup> <sup>(4)</sup>.

The Commission has also established the Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Authority (HERA) and adopted the Global Health Strategy <sup>(5)</sup> as the external dimension of the European Health Union.

The Global Health Resilience Initiative (GHRI) will aim to build on and enhance this solid health framework. With it, the Commission intends to ensure the EU is prepared and can respond quickly to emerging threats to avoid their social and economic impacts. The Commission is currently working on the details of the GHRI and intends to communicate them in due course.

More generally, the EU has been, and will remain, a reliable and responsible partner in global health preparedness. The scale and complexity of the current global needs require a wider collective response.

In line with its commitment to global health, the EU will continue to lead and play its role in global health, and it encourages all members of the international community to shoulder their responsibility.

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<sup>(1)</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/ov/SPEECH\\_25\\_2053](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/ov/SPEECH_25_2053).

<sup>(2)</sup> <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2022/2371/oj>.

<sup>(3)</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2022/2370/oj/eng>.

<sup>(4)</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ:L:2022:020:TOC>.

<sup>(5)</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52022DC0675&qid=1760519220471> COM/2022/675 final Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions EU Global Health Strategy Better Health for All in a Changing World.