

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-004090/25
to the Commission
Nicolás González Casares (S&D)
(16 October 2025)**

Subject: The risks to access and the cost of medicines as a result of the price war declared by US President Donald Trump

As a result of President Trump's executive order on drug prices — which presented pharmaceutical companies with an ultimatum to increase drug prices in third countries — and the threat of tariffs, several European companies have announced new investments in the United States, leading to a reconsideration and delay of planned investments in Europe.

This context could be exploited by some pharmaceutical companies to pressure the EU and negotiate higher drug prices, which would have serious consequences, including an excessive increase in pharmaceutical spending, a deterioration in the sustainability of our healthcare systems and a real risk of limited access to medicines in some Member States.

1. Has the Commission therefore considered monitoring medicine prices to supervise and, if necessary, mitigate the impact of these measures?
2. Has the Commission considered launching an observatory to monitor the pharmaceutical market?
3. Is the Commission considering using the anti-coercion instrument to protect the internal market from the competitive effects of this hostile policy?

Submitted: 16.10.2025

**Answer given by Mr Várhelyi on behalf of the European Commission
(19 January 2026)**

The Commission is closely following the implementation of the United States' Most Favoured Nation Policy and any potential indirect effects on the EU market.

In the EU, Member States, in accordance with Article 168(7) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU ⁽¹⁾, are responsible for the pricing and reimbursement for medicines, which needs to respect Council Directive 89/105/EEC ⁽²⁾.

The Commission supports the cooperation among Member States on pricing, payment and procurement policies, for instance through the National Competent Authorities on Pricing and Reimbursement and Public Healthcare Payers (NCAPR). This includes the sharing of information on pricing developments outside the EU and their potential impact inside the EU.

The Commission also funds various activities under the EU4Health Programme to promote price transparency and support Member States in making informed decisions about pricing and reimbursements.

One of these initiatives is the European Integrated Price Information Database (EURIPID), where Member States voluntarily share information about medicine prices, sales volumes, and the existence of managed entry agreements.

The anti-coercion instrument is first and foremost designed to act as a deterrent against economic coercion. Where coercion nonetheless happens, it provides a legal framework and sets out the means for the EU to investigate and take decisions.

⁽¹⁾ https://eur-lex.europa.eu/resource.html?uri=cellar:2bf140bf-a3f8-4ab2-b506-fd71826e6da6.0023.02/DOC_2&format=PDF.
⁽²⁾ OJ L 40, 11.2.1989, pp. 8-11; ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/1989/105/oj>.