



***Manon Aubry and Martin Schirdewan***  
*Co-Presidents of the Left in the European Parliament*

***Dimitrios Papadimoulis***  
*Vice-President of the European Parliament*

To the attention of:

**Mr. David Maria Sassoli**  
President of the European Parliament

**The Presidents of the Political Groups in the European Parliament**

**The Members of the Bureau of the European Parliament**

13 January 2021

**Subject: Mass vaccination against COVID-19 for all people**

Dear President Sassoli,

Dear Presidents of the Political Groups,

Dear Members of the Bureau,

The COVID-19 pandemic has claimed thousands of lives across Europe and has led to an unprecedented crisis that has caused multiple devastating consequences on our healthcare systems, our societies and our economies.

In order to radically curb the pandemic, the timely mass production and availability of safe, effective and affordable vaccines is of outmost importance. Scientists have been working intensively to develop effective COVID-19 vaccines and the EU has dedicated significant amounts of funds to this end.

These efforts have begun to yield results. The European Commission has already approved two COVID-19 vaccines and the vaccination process has already started in the Member States. However, there is still a high degree of uncertainty regarding the timely development, production and availability of new vaccines.

In order to avoid any delays and shortages, the COVID-19 vaccines should be treated in practise as public goods. To this end, the EU should find ways to overcome the barriers and

restrictions arising from patents and intellectual property rights and ensure the widespread production and distribution of vaccines as well as the mass vaccination of the people.

Moreover, the EU should set up an information and awareness campaign on the vaccines and the vaccination process to address fears and concerns of the people. It is to be noted that full transparency of the vaccine negotiations and all purchase agreements, not only the version of the contract with CureVac, including all clauses, articles and provisions, should complement this campaign. To this end, the opening hours for consultation of the contract with CureVac for supply of COVID-19 vaccines made available by the European Commission should be extended for MEPs. This is a necessary condition to enhance the trust of European citizens in the vaccines.


Last but not least, the Parliament should hold a debate in the upcoming Plenary on the issue of vaccines, calling on the Commission and the Member States to enhance and accelerate their action towards the timely mass vaccination of the population in order to achieve the goal of vaccinating the vast majority of the population until summer. Otherwise, our societies and economies will not be able to recover.

As the World Health Organization has pointed out, no one will ever be truly safe until everyone is safe.

Yours sincerely,



Martin Schirdewan



Manon Aubry



Dimitrios Papadimoulis