I.R.C.E.
Institut de Recherche et de Communication sur l'Europe
Le Think Tank des dynamiques européennes

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Mrs Stella KYRIAKIDES
European Commissioner for Health
and food security
By email

PJ : Diner report IRCE - Leem

Commissioner,

I would like to get back in touch with you following your speech to the European Parliament in October and our short meeting afterwards.

As you know, the Institute for Research and Communication on Europe (I.R.C.E.), is an independent, non-political and generalist associative body, registered in the Institutions' Transparency Register, is a think tank and an operational body (Do Tank). We work on both public policies and public and private ecosystems through many governance topics and specific themes through publications, studies, training, events, ideas and projects that are generally recognized as innovative. Our strength is also to break down the barriers between subjects in order to detect the same objectives and search for solutions in a search for efficiency, time and money.

I have followed with interest the discussion on the shortage of medicines in Parliament. As I was telling you, we heard the President of the drug manufacturers last spring, which you will find attached and which we can send to you in English, raising certain realities seen from the point of view of the LEEM as well as some of the ideas put forward during the preliminary and questions that did not necessarily have the expected answers.

I was also able to ask some manufacturers questions about products that are not classified as medicines at various trade fairs. Even if European regulations do not necessarily have to be uniform in all areas, certain subjects can nevertheless be addressed for this sector, which is considered strategic and affects the future and the well-being of the population, which is not self-evident. As has finally been done for defence, a public-private fund could be set up, also joining the EIB and private investors, to develop joint research in order to then promote uses and capacity, as well as a labelled recognition of know-how in Europe, also with controlled prices and costs.

As in defence in France where the General Delegation for Armaments seems envied in other countries, with long-term technological contracts, the European health agency should be able to carry out work deemed strategic beyond a simple validation of results and why not with the support and know-how of OCCAR – agency for the management of programmes - or a similar structure. It is also important to have transparency maintaining trust with the major manufacturers, imposing objective costs, open books, bonuses and malus, as well as risk sharing,

with an authorization to consider a percentage of R&D in production costs but with systematic audit as we know in France for defense and dual industries.

President Macron said, before the European Parliament, that he had needed the European dimension to pass the GDPR in France and now in Europe and then in Japan as part of the major international agreements. Nor should it block commercial relations, research and tests with the major non-European providers of digital solutions, but for experiments and exploitation in Europe and no longer in the rest of the world, with nevertheless compliance with our provisions, including DSA, DMA, AI. We hope that Commissioners interested in this cross-cutting subject will be interested.

One of the major issues seems to be the standardization of packaging and dosages, which prevents the rapid and spontaneous use of stocks across the European area. Manufacturers have to constantly make the effort to adapt with increases in production costs which sometimes prevent wider distribution but which no longer pose a problem once sent outside Europe to markets where the product is sold individually.

A "European medicine" initiative, probably with a generic molecule, could be created to initiate this standardization. These realities also affect "non-medicines" and alternative medicine should also be considered in the "health mix" beyond simple labels of free initiative such as for food safety.

In addition, and without necessarily calling into question the valorization of RNA technology finally recognized, in the hope that it responds well to the ethics of innovation reducing or even prohibiting the use of substances that could be recognized as dangerous later. As part of our piloting actions, we support the idea of carrying out a study at regular intervals on the clinical effects induced results of Covid vaccines.

Finally, following an audit of nearly a hundred farms, I wanted to remind you that the use of chemicals, which I myself have handled on the family farm, does not only affect insects and animals but also and above all farmers.

I will of course be honored to see you again soon, or even organize an event in Paris, to discuss these topics.

Please believe, Commissioner, in my profound respect.

François CHARLES
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