

**To the Members of the European Parliament  
To the Members of the Council**

Dear Member of the European Parliament,  
Dear Attaché,

We, the undersigned organisations, are writing to bring to your attention that **the revision of the EU's pharmaceutical legislation has thus far completely disregarded its global impact**; diluting existing EU commitments to support the development and deployment of tools to tackle global health challenges.

In November 2022, the European Commission adopted a renewed [EU Global Health Strategy](#), stating that the EU “*intends to reassert its responsibility and deepen its leadership in the interest of the highest attainable standards of health based on fundamental values such as solidarity and equity*”. This Strategy serves as a foundational roadmap for a more united, effective, and geopolitical Health Union. We strongly believe that **these objectives must be reflected in the new EU pharmaceutical legislation**.

The fact that the new legislative proposal omits any mention of global health, and removes calls anchored in the current legislation for “further incentives to carry out research into medicinal products against widespread tropical diseases”<sup>1</sup> **jeopardises the credibility and effectiveness of the EU as a global health actor**, and could discourage European pharmaceutical companies, research institutes, and academia from advancing global health programmes, which are crucial for addressing a range of health challenges, including those on neglected infectious diseases.

Europe hosts world-leading global health research and innovation (R&I) institutions, and the continent's long-standing contribution to tackling infectious disease threats has been extraordinary. One of the most efficacious COVID-19 vaccines was pioneered by a German firm, a French company developed the first vaccine against Dengue, while a Danish entity spearheaded the development of the innovative Mpox vaccine procured by HERA on behalf of the 27 EU member states. **It is of paramount importance that the new pharmaceutical legislation builds on and fosters such efforts; protecting the most vulnerable in Europe and the rest of the world, and ensuring we are all better prepared against global health threats.**

The EU plays a major role in supporting the development of tools such as vaccines, diagnostics and therapeutics for poverty-related and neglected diseases with high unmet medical need, in particular through the [Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking](#), which also supports countries to strengthen their health systems and improves access to health products worldwide. This work is further reinforced by the EU's [EU Medicines4all](#) procedure and the [Team Europe Initiative on Manufacturing and Access to Vaccines, Medicines and Health Technology Products](#). These initiatives have harnessed the expertise and leveraged the resources of the diverse European R&I landscape, strengthening international collaborations and capacities to deliver impactful innovations.

**We urge you to ensure that the new EU pharmaceutical legislation contributes to the global health targets set out in the Sustainable Development Goals and the EU Global Health Strategy.** The new pharmaceutical legislation should be another stepping stone in building a stronger European R&I ecosystem for global health. It should set the foundation for novel mechanisms to spur R&I on poverty-related and neglected infectious diseases and facilitate the accessibility and affordability of pharmaceutical innovations worldwide.

Thank you for your consideration. We remain available to discuss our letter in more detail.

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<sup>1</sup> Recital 15 of the Regulation 726/2004.

For your information, a copy of this letter will be shared with the chairs and a number of members of the ENVI, DEVE and ITRE committees at the European Parliament/health attachés.

Sincerely,

## Signatories

1. Deutsche Stiftung Weltbevölkerung (DSW)
2. Global Health Advocates (GHA)
3. Consilium Scientific
4. Asociación por un Acceso Justo al Medicamento, Spain
5. NoGracias
6. International AIDS Society (IAS)
7. Aidsfonds
8. International Aids Vaccine Initiative (IAVI)
9. Treatment Action Group
10. Medicines for Malaria Venture (MMV)
11. Consumer Association the Quality of Life-EKPIZO
12. Health Action International (HAI)
13. Wemos
14. Access to Medicines Ireland
15. The European Public Health Alliance (EPHA)
16. Pharmaceutical Accountability Foundation (PAF)
17. FIND

