

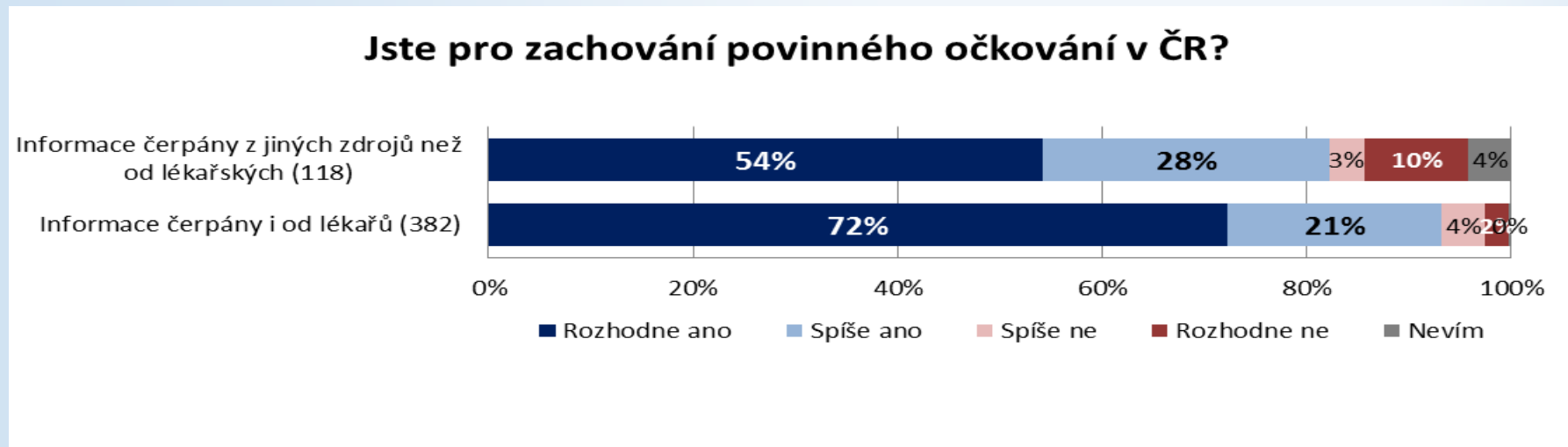
ENVI draft motion for resolution on vaccine hesitancy and the drop in vaccination rates in Europe

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GUE / NGL shadow rapporteur

Public attitude towards vaccination Czech republic

A study conducted in July 2017 in Czech republic shows that compulsory vaccination has less support from those who do not use information from doctors - yet only 13% of them are against.



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Main points of what we have prepared so far

- EP welcomes that the introduction of the large-scale protective vaccinations in Europe has significantly contributed to the eradication or decline in many infectious diseases; nevertheless, is concerned by the worrying phenomenon of vaccine hesitancy, as well as by the lack of national recommendations to take account of the ageing population and calls for greater transparency in the production of vaccines and measures to reassure European citizens.
- Condemns the spread of unreliable, misleading and unscientific information on vaccination aggravated by media controversies, media sensationalism and poor journalism.

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- Calls on Member States and the Commission to take effective steps against the spread of such misinformation and to further develop awareness and information campaigns to restore confidence in vaccines and to enhance education and dialogue, especially for parents, including the creation of a European platform aimed at increasing vaccination coverage and preventing misleading information from proving effective.
- Is concerned about the alarmingly limited budget allocated specifically to vaccination in some Member States and about the high prices as well as large differences in price of some life-saving vaccines within and outside the EU, that risk to further exacerbate existing health inequalities.

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- Urges the Commission and the Member States as soon as possible to implement the measures called for in the European Parliament's report of 14 February 2017 on EU options for improving access to medicines; while stressing that vaccination is one of the most cost-effective public health interventions for healthcare systems in the long term.
- Calls on the Member States and on the Commission to promote awareness-raising campaigns among health-care professionals who provide vaccinations underlining their obligation, both moral and ethical, to protect public health by providing patients (or patients' legal guardians) with sufficient information about vaccines so that they can make an informed decision.
- Calls on the Member States to punctually provide data on vaccination and vaccine preventable diseases to the Commission, the ECDC and the WHO.

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- Calls on the Commission and the Member States to elaborate a fully comprehensive EU Action Plan raising the social problem of vaccine hesitancy, strengthening Member States' commitments, including priority and region-specific actions, and taking into account the varying circumstances and specific challenges faced by the Member States.
- Is concerned that high vaccine prices disproportionately affect low and middle income countries, including countries that are losing donor support through Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance; calls on the Commission and Member States to take measures to help facilitate access to vaccines in those countries.
- Calls on the Commission to facilitate a more harmonised schedule for vaccination across the EU, to share best practice, ensure even coverage across Europe and reduce health inequalities.

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- Recognises the potential role vaccines can play in combatting Anti-Microbial Resistance, which should continue to be explored.
- Strongly supports the Joint Procurement Agreement.
- Calls on the Commission and Member States to map what concrete vaccination activities are being implemented for migrants and refugees entering EU countries and work to address the identified gaps.

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Summary

- 101 amendments has been tabled
- 6 compromises has been prepared by shadow rapporteurs till now
- The motion for resolution will be voted on 19th or 20th of March in the ENVI committee
- The motion for resolution will be voted in April on the plenary session of the European parliament in Strasbourg

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*Thank you all for listening, it was a
pleasure being here today.*