

# PRESS STATEMENT

*Medicines for Europe response to the decision by the CJEU to deny legal standing based on procedural matters of admissibility and whether there is an individual concern.*

Brussels, 20 February 2026

The evidence is still clear that the UWWTD EPR threatens to undermine security of supply of medicines and affordable healthcare. We will continue to challenge the EPR to safeguard patients.

Whilst we are disappointed that the first instance Court denied the applicants' legal standing, this is a decision on mere procedural matters of admissibility of the action and whether there is an individual concern, with a very conservative approach taken by the Court. This is not a judgment on the substantive question of whether the EPR Scheme violates EU laws and principles and threatens the secure supply of medicines and affordable healthcare.

In fact, as the Court points out in its ruling, there is documentary evidence submitted that supports our claim and renders the implication likely that the costs associated with the contested EPR would undermine the business model and ultimately the security of supply of generic medicinal products. In fact, evidence emerging from recent national analyses confirms the scale of the risk. In the Netherlands, prices of certain critical antibiotics could increase by up to 220%, and first-line diabetes treatments by up to 900%.

This remains an urgent issue and the substantive evidence remains clear. We will continue to challenge the EPR, and further our calls - alongside an increasing number of member states - to stop the clock for an urgent independent review in order to protect the essential supply of medicines.

We are now exploring all actions to secure patient access to medicines.

## More information

- MEMO on [Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive](#) (UWWTD).

## Medicines for Europe

**Medicines for Europe** represents the generic, biosimilar and value-added medicines industries across Europe. Its vision is to provide sustainable access to high quality medicines, based on 5 important pillars: patients, quality, value, sustainability and partnership. Its members directly employ 190,000 people at over 400 manufacturing and 126 R&D sites in Europe and invest up to 17% of their turnover in R&D investment. Medicines for Europe member companies across Europe are both increasing access to medicines and driving improved health outcomes. They play a key role in creating sustainable European healthcare systems by continuing to provide high quality, effective generic medicines, whilst also innovating to create new biosimilar medicines and bringing to market value added medicines, which deliver better health outcomes, greater efficiency and/or improved safety in the hospital setting for patients. For more information, please follow us at [www.medicinesforeurope.com](http://www.medicinesforeurope.com) and on [LinkedIn](#) and X [@medicinesforEU](#).