

Politico

By Carmen Paun

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European Health Commissioner Vytenis Andriukaitis warned drugmakers that if they don't ensure continuous supply of medicines across the EU member countries they may have to face solutions to drug shortages they may not like.

In [a speech](#) delivered Wednesday evening at a dinner organized by the EU pharma lobby EFPIA and published today, Andriukaitis said: "There should not be a situation when [a] company refuses to market a medicine in one or another member state because of a small market or another trivial reason."

He urged drugmakers to tackle "the vulnerability of the production and distribution of medicinal products" to guarantee continuity of supply amid increasing drug shortages across Europe.

More than 30 patient and health groups [have asked the European Commission](#) to investigate why Europe is experiencing increasing shortages of medicines, but DG SANTE boss Anne Bucher [said the Commission wasn't planning](#) any additional work besides what's already being done.

The Dutch Medical Care Minister Bruno Bruins [has also said he would push](#) the next Commission to probe the causes of drug shortages in the EU.

Andriukaitis also addressed high drug prices in his speech, saying that the "industry should provide a financial return of public funding in case of successful drug development and, most importantly — the injection of public investment needs to be accounted for in the prices!"

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