

## **Dutch House of Representatives: Netherlands should request postponement of vote on the WHO pandemic treaty.**

On April 16, 2024, the Dutch Parliament approved a motion which calls for the government to request a vote postponement on the amendments to the International Health Regulations (IHR) and the proposed Pandemic Treaty. The World Health Assembly at the WHO plans to vote on or approve these treaties in May 2024. In the Netherlands, the next step is a letter from the cabinet describing how they will carry out the motion. This letter is expected within three weeks.

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Link to the original article; <https://www.telegraaf.nl/nieuws/5242650/kamer-nederland-moet-uitstel-vragen-voor-stemmen-over-pandemieverdrag-who>

### **Key Excerpts from the article in Telegraaf.nl:**

The Hague - The Netherlands should ask for a delay from the World Health Organization (WHO) on voting on a new Pandemic Treaty. A majority in the Tweede Kamer [the Dutch House of Representatives] believe the treaty is being rushed through too quickly while it has far-reaching implications.

More time is needed for their consideration and testing, argues MP Mona Keijzer (Farmer-Citizen Movement Party) who submitted a motion together with New Social Contract Party and Party for Freedom. "There is insufficient opportunity to examine the amendments and their important legal, health, economic, financial and human rights implications."

These parties are also concerned that the Netherlands will lose its voice on deciding how to deal with a possible future pandemic. The Farmer-Citizen Party and Party for Freedom, among others, fear that the Netherlands will be forced through the WHO to take measures that the Netherlands does not want.

The House of Representatives is not reassured and instructed [Outgoing Minister Pia] Dijkstra to request a postponement. Should that not be forthcoming, the House believes the cabinet should vote against the new pandemic treaty.