European Parliament

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Plenary sitting

B8-1421/2016

3.1.2017

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

pursuant to Rule 133 of the Rules of Procedure
on the use of new technologies and attention deficit issues

Mireille D'Ornano

B8-1421/2016

Motion for a European Parliament resolution on the use of new technologies and attention deficit issues

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Article 168 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
- having regard to Rule 133 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas, according to a 2012 Pew Research Center survey of more than two thousand US teachers, 87% of respondents reported that their students had serious difficulty paying attention; whereas, according to the US Center for Disease Control and Prevention, the percentage of US children with attention difficulties (ADHD) has gone up from 5% at the beginning of the 1990s to 11% today;
- B. whereas, according to a study by the US society Microsoft (2015, Canada), the average attention span had gone down from 12 seconds in 2000 to 8 seconds on the date of the study;
- C. whereas the shortened attention span is attributed in particular to the use of new technologies, according to Russell Poldrack, Professor of psychology at Stanford University (Science, January 2017);
- 1. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to issue guidelines on attention deficit issues in the context of their educational and social policies and to limit the use of technology to that which is strictly necessary to boost learning and work productivity.