Question for written answer E-006988/2012 to the Commission Rule 117 Mitro Repo (S&D)

Subject: Masters Student Loan Guarantee Facility

The Commission has proposed a regulation establishing 'Erasmus for All', which will be the Single Programme in the field of Education, Training, Youth and Sport.

Furthermore, the Commission is proposing to create a Masters Student Loan Guarantee Facility with the aim of increasing degree mobility in Europe and in particular among Masters students (Articles 7(1)a and 14(3) of the regulation).

- How is the Commission planning to ensure that students in all participating countries have the opportunity to benefit from the scheme?
- What rules should be established regarding the country in which students apply for the loan?
- What mechanisms can be put in place to ensure that students are able to afford repayments irrespective of their country of study and country of future employment?
- What impact could the scheme have on Member States' or institutional policies regarding tuition fees for graduate programmes?
- Has the Commission considered the possibility that increasing degree mobility in Europe could be better achieved by replacing this scheme with scholarships for Masters students while not burdening new graduates with loans?