Question for written answer E-007432/2014 to the Commission Rule 130 Fernando Maura Barandiarán (ALDE)

Subject: Digital education and connectivity for all

The Digital Agenda for Europe focuses on promoting digital skills within education systems. The aim is to innovate and to modernise learning practices across Europe in order to stimulate growth and jobs.

Today, teaching in EU countries is mainly traditional: between 50 % and 80 % of EU students never use digital textbooks or software exercises, while most teachers admit that they are not prepared to teach digital skills and would like to receive more training in the use of ICT (information and communication technologies). For this reason, in September 2013 the Commission launched the 'Opening up Education' action plan, aimed at fostering opportunities for digital innovation in education and increasing the use of open educational resources.

- 1. How will this initiative be made truly accessible to all, given the lack of modern technological infrastructure in some areas of a number of EU countries?
- 2. How does the Commission intend to connect schools and other educational institutions in geographically isolated areas of EU countries, including rural areas?

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