

**Question for written answer E-009972/2014  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Marielle de Sarnez (ALDE)**

Subject: Merit-based grants

Nineteen Member States award their most deserving students merit-based grants, which come on top of the needs-based grants they may already be receiving. The arrangements for awarding such grants and the amounts involved differ from country to country. Germany is the most generous Member State, offering grants of EUR 9 000, but they are no longer paid if recipients go abroad to study. France, meanwhile, is considering doing away with this measure, which does much to foster social mobility.

Although education and training are a national matter, Member States receive support from the European Union to help them set common objectives and share best practices.

1. Does the Commission intend to encourage Member States to introduce merit-based grants?
2. Does it plan to carry out a study into the feasibility of introducing merit-based grants at EU level?