Question for written answer E-001677/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Ilhan Kyuchyuk (ALDE)

Subject: Encouraging more people with special needs to participate in Erasmus+

Participating in a mobility programme offers young people self-development opportunities and gives them life-changing experiences. This is very important, especially for groups at risk of social exclusion.

Supplementary financial support is available for students with special needs who wish to participate in Erasmus+ but would not be able to do so without extra financial support.

However, according to the Commission's statistics concerning the Erasmus programme, during the 2012-2013 academic year only 388 students with special needs received a supplementary grant for Erasmus studies or traineeships. This represents just 0.14 % of all Erasmus students and trainees. Although the number has increased compared with previous years, it is still extremely low.

What does the Commission intend to do to encourage more people with special needs to participate in Erasmus+, besides making it possible for such students to receive supplementary financial support?

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