

Question for written answer E-005462/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
Notis Marias (ECR)

Subject: Measures to stem the spread of bullying in schools in Greece and other EU Member States

The tragic death of a young student in Greece recently has highlighted the problem of bullying at school. According to a survey conducted in six European countries by the NGO 'Children's Smile' under the aegis of a conference held in 2014, Greece is in fourth place in terms of bullying at school, with a score of 31.98 %. At a more analytical level, the percentage of brawls between teenagers is 51 %, 6.3 % of teenagers have experienced online bullying and 42 % of teachers believe that incidents of violence and unacceptable behaviour in schools are underestimated or kept quiet and that only 1 in 10 children who experience some form of violence receive support.

In Europe, 55 % of children who have been bullied claim that they have experienced symptoms of depression as a result, with over 1/3 of them claiming that they self-harmed or contemplated suicide.

In view of the above, will the Commission say:

1. Does it have statistics on the problem of bullying at school in the EU Member States and, if so, could it provide them to us so that we can publish them?
2. Does it intend to take initiatives to coordinate transnational action by the EU Member States and then fund measures to stem the spread of the problem of bullying at school?