

**Question for written answer E-008755/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Ivan Jakovčić (ALDE)

Subject: European system of scholarships

Countries such as Luxembourg, Norway, the UK, Finland, Sweden, Ireland and Switzerland have the highest number of people with higher and university education among the EU Member States. These countries have several common characteristics; apart from all being highly developed countries that invest a great deal in education, they are also states that offer students a variety of scholarships and student loans.

Many of the less developed EU Member States cannot invest a comparable amount of funds in education and scholarships, which results in higher education being affordable only to a small part of the population. That has long-term effects on the educational structure of the population as well as on the economy.

Is the EU considering the launch of a particular European system of scholarships which would offer deserving individuals, regardless of their nationality and financial status, the possibility of higher education so that the EU can really become the Europe of knowledge?