

**Question for written answer E-011281/2015  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: Public education in Spain

According to recent data from the Spanish Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport relating to 2013, the various governments allocated EUR 45 245.2 million to education, which is 4.31 % of gross domestic product (GDP) and marks a return to the level in 2006, when EUR 42 480 million (the same percentage of GDP) was invested. Over four years, more than EUR 7 760 million has been lost for teachers in classrooms, grants and additional resources. Austerity policies have had a particularly significant impact on non-university education, from nursery schools through to higher level vocational training courses. Vocational training has been hardest hit, losing more than 53 % of its support.

Education has played, and continues to play, an essential role in transforming the European Union into a world leader in the current information- and knowledge-based society.

In view of this data, does the Commission consider that Spain is complying with its goals with regard to education?

Does the Commission not think that austerity measures are having a negative impact on public education?

Does the Commission think that austerity and investment in public education are compatible concepts?