

**Question for written answer E-014426/2015  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Notis Marias (ECR)**

Subject: Not all children have access to pre-primary education in Greece

Pre-primary education helps ensure the all-round development of a child, i.e. cognitive, emotional and psychokinetic development. Not only do pre-school age experiences affect children's subsequent school performance, but they also affect their whole lives.

Pre-primary education in Greece is provided in the form of care and hosting services for infants and children with or without disabilities by infant and childcare centres and children's creativity centres included in the NSRF programme 'Harmonising family and professional lives'. In the 2015-2016 school year, however, the above services were provided only to 81 000 infants and children, whereas the number of children not included in the above programme was high, as 25 800 children were not able to register in a child care centre.

On the island of Crete alone, 2 304 children, i.e. one out of three, will not be provided with care and hosting services by childcare and children's creativity centres.

Given the above, I would like to ask the Commission:

What measures does the Commission intend to implement to enable all children to have access to pre-primary education in Greece?