

**Question for written answer E-002874/2016
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: The 'Odysseus' European volunteering project

On 17 March the Italian Prime Minister, Matteo Renzi, announced a proposal to set up the 'Odysseus' project for voluntary service in Europe. This main aim of this initiative is for young people to regain their trust in the EU, which has been eroded as a result of their current difficulties.

Recent polls suggest increasing support for Eurosceptic parties among voters, especially young people of 18 to 24 years of age.

The ultimate goal of 'Odysseus' is for young people to carry out voluntary work in other Member States, acquiring work experience, learning a new language and thus feeling a sense of belonging to the EU.

Does the Commission think that this could be a good solution to these problems?

Is the Commission considering any other similar proposals?