

**Question for written answer E-008131/2016
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Claudia Tapardel (S&D)

Subject: Equal education for men and women in the European Union

According to Parliament's Directorate-General for Internal Policies, 30 million girls of primary school age are excluded from the education system worldwide. In Member States, due to austerity policies advocated in Brussels, budget cuts in the education sector are jeopardising free high-quality public education and thus serving to exacerbate inequalities. However, an equal allocation of educational resources would result in greater access for girls to the labour market, which could only foster the EU's economic prosperity.

Parliament's resolution of 25 November 2015 on empowering girls through education in the EU¹ calls on the Commission to ensure that Member States increase investment in education and provide equal education opportunities for women and men. Furthermore, the resolution asks the Commission to organise various training programmes for girls in the Member States on the subject of their participation in higher education and corresponding job opportunities.

With regard to the aforementioned resolution:

1. What has the Commission done since September 2015, in collaboration with the Member States, to tackle the issue of inequality in education?
2. Can the Commission provide specific examples of the work done?
3. Does the Commission have a long-term plan to tackle this type of inequality in the EU? If so, what is the plan?

¹ Texts adopted, P8_TA(2015)0411.