Question for written answer E-008814/2016 to the Commission Rule 130 Andi Cristea (S&D)

Subject: Educating refugee children

Education is a basic human right that restores hope and dignity to children that have been forced to flee their homes. It is an indispensable tool for integration, empowering people to participate fully in their community and its political, economic, social, and cultural life.

According to the UNHCR's report, refugees are five times more likely to drop out of school than the global average. Only 50 % of refugee children have access to primary education, compared with a global average of more than 90 %. The gap widens as these children become older, with only 22 % of refugee teenagers attending secondary school, compared to a global average of 84 %.

Could the Commission extend the projects developed under the Facility for Refugees in Turkey to other countries in need, such as Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq, in order to provide education for refugee children coming from conflicts area?

Could the Commission develop sensitive education programmes for refugee girls and young women by lifting the barriers that cause them to drop out of school, or that prevent them from enrolling, though improvements in the quality of, access to and retention of refugee girls and young women in schools?

1110759.EN PE 594.683