

**Question for written answer E-009547/2016
to the Commission**
Rule 130
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Subject: An EU common strategy against bullying at school

Bullying at school remains a persistent problem at schools everywhere. Its impact is extremely serious and, in some cases, even quite disastrous. Pupils who are bullied are no longer happy at school, their school results deteriorate, then they stop attending school, gradually people around them notice psychological and physical symptoms, and in extreme cases they commit suicide.

On the other hand, it has also proved possible to set up successful programmes to halt school bullying. I should like to mention just two different examples in Finland. The first is KiVa Koulu®, which is a programme of measures against bullying developed at the University of Turku (<http://www.kivakoulu.fi/>). There is ample academic evidence of the programme's effectiveness. A second example is of a very different nature, but has produced good results. 'Bikers against school bullying!!!' is a group of motor cyclists who visit schools with their motorbikes to hold anti-bullying events.

No doubt successful approaches have been developed in other EU Member States as well. In order for them to be effectively passed on more widely, however, effective, centralised coordination is needed. Can the Commission create a network and an associated strategy by means of which knowledge of successful approaches to tackling school bullying can be passed on as widely as possible?