

**Question for written answer E-009611/2016/rev.1  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Alain Cadec (PPE)**

Subject: Reducing inequalities in education at European level

According to the results of the 2016 PISA analysis, several European countries are still rather poorly rated in terms of academic achievement. According to PISA, reducing inequalities with regard to education depends not only on the guidelines provided by governments but also on reforming educational systems. The relationship between performance and socio-economic background remains very pronounced in several EU Member States. Educational goals that are set at government level, their appraisal and ongoing teacher training are necessary for an education that reduces inequalities. In the light of the PISA results, how can the Commission encourage educational reform in the Member States to reduce inequalities with regard to education and make educational systems in the EU more inclusive?

The ages at which pupils select a vocational or academic route differ between the Member States. According to the Commission, what is an appropriate age to choose which path to take?