

Question for written answer E-005798/2018
to the Commission
Rule 130
Mireille D'Ornano (EFDD)

Subject: Preventing school bullying

In France, 700 000 children are victims of school bullying, half of them seriously. School bullying affects one in ten primary school children and, for 6% of the students, this continues in secondary school. According to UNICEF, bullying in the broadest sense of the term, including pushing and shoving, mockery and hurtful comments, affects one in three children. According to the same survey, one in four bullied adolescents say they have considered suicide. Yet teachers and child psychiatrists believe that bullying can be prevented. Start by asking children if they are aware of the existence of bullying and then tell them that they can avoid this situation, that it is important to react by saying 'no' firmly, taking up a combat sport, telling their teachers and the school director and finally by making a complaint, so that their attackers understand that this is not just a game.

1. As it has the competence to take supportive action in the area of education, does the Commission have statistics on how school bullying has evolved within the European Union?
2. What steps does the Commission propose to take to support Member States in raising awareness and tackling school bullying?