EN E-000986/2019 E-001278/2019 Answer given by Mr Navracsics on behalf of the European Commission (21.5.2019)

The Commission acknowledges that the digital transformation will continue to accelerate with the rapid advance of new technologies. Education plays a central role here as it can provide citizens with the competences and skills they need to thrive in a digital age.

In 2018, the Commission adopted the Digital Education Action Plan¹ to support the use of technology and the development of digital competences in education. The Action Plan has three priorities: making better use of digital technology for teaching and learning; developing relevant digital competences and skills for the digital transformation; and improving education through better data analysis and foresight.

It includes measures to support Member States in meeting the challenges of education in the digital age. It puts forward eleven targeted actions that span several aspects of digital education. They include: the deployment of a self-assessment tool that helps schools understand where they stand with the use of digital technologies for teaching and learning; targeted pilots using artificial intelligence techniques to build predictive models for future skills; or campaigns to promote coding skills and cybersecurity.

The Commission also fosters EU-wide cooperation through exchange of best practice, peer learning and evidence sharing. This is implemented through the strategic framework for European cooperation in education and training and promoted through a dedicated working group on Digital Education². Several EU funding programmes complement national efforts in supporting digital education³. Support to digital education will continue with the next generation of programmes, such as Erasmus, the European Social Fund and Digital Europe⁴.

https://ec.europa.eu/education/education-in-the-eu/digital-education-action-plan en

² https://ec.europa.eu/education/policies/european-policy-cooperation/et2020-working-groups en

e.g. Erasmus+, European Social Fund, European Regional Development Fund, Horizon 2020, the Connecting Europe Facility, etc.

⁴ https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:52018PC0434&from=EN