

**Question for written answer E-002351/2019  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Agnès Evren (PPE)**

Subject: Network of European universities

On 26 June 2019, the Commission published the list of the first 17 'European Universities', involving 114 higher education institutions from 24 Member States.

This was an initiative announced by the Commission in the run-up to the Gothenburg summit of November 2017. It was approved by the European Council in December 2017, marking a major step forward in establishing a European education area by 2025.

Facilitating the mobility of students and professors, fostering language learning and critical thinking and valuing excellence and innovation, these European universities will help promote common values and a strengthened European identity, while training a generation of open-minded students who are better equipped to face the challenges of tomorrow.

Several studies on recent programmes concerning education and young people, particularly Erasmus, have revealed significant inequalities in access to them.

How does the Commission intend to build on the European universities initiative to encourage the participation of less privileged students?

In addition, given the diversity of alliances between European universities, does the Commission intend to draft a report on the various models put in place by these first 17 alliances?