

**Question for written answer E-002638/2012  
to the Commission**

Rule 117

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Subject: Programme for education, training, youth and sport for the years 2014-2020 - 'Erasmus for all'

The proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the 'Erasmus for all' programme, which is a Community programme in the field of education, training, youth and sport, represents a complete departure from the current practice of targeting new Community programmes at key groups of beneficiaries. This beneficial approach has been followed for the current 'Lifelong Learning' and 'Youth in Action' programmes, within which separate provision is made for sub-programmes and actions aimed at specific target groups. The structure of those programmes makes it possible to easily identify those targeted by measures and individual actions. The new programme, however, provides for a subject-based approach which does not distinguish between actions tailored to individual categories of recipients. As a result, under the new programme, some beneficiaries, including schools and young people not studying, will compete for the funds with beneficiaries of an entirely different institutional profile, such as large universities. Access to European funding may thus be blocked for smaller entities, such as small schools or small non-governmental organisations.

How can the Commission guarantee that the chances of obtaining funding for current beneficiaries of the 'Youth in Action' and 'Lifelong Learning' programmes, including small schools, school pupils and young people who are not students, will not be adversely affected under the new proposal?

The draft includes provisions on complementarity and cooperation between the new programme and relevant European policies and funds, including in particular the European Social Fund and other financial instruments in the field of employment and social inclusion, the European Regional Development Fund, research and innovation programmes and financial instruments in the field of justice and citizenship, health, external cooperation programmes and pre-accession aid instruments (Article 19). It is not clear, however, how the Commission is planning to improve and increase cooperation between these instruments.

What will be the mechanism for complementarity between the 'Erasmus for all' programme and the European funds? Who will be responsible for managing the joint operation of the programme and the ESF? Will detailed guidelines be drafted regarding the complementarity between the 'Erasmus for all' programme and the ESF?