Question for written answer E-011390/2012 to the Commission Rule 117 Vilija Blinkevičiūtė (S&D)

Subject: On the review of Directives 2004/114/EC and 2005/71/EC

Council Directive 2004/114/EC on the conditions of admission of third-country nationals for the purposes of studies, pupil exchange, unremunerated training or voluntary service was adopted in 2004 in order to promote the mobility of third-country nationals to the Community for the purpose of studies so that Europe becomes a world centre of excellence for studies and vocational training.

Council Directive 2005/71/EC on a specific procedure for admitting third-country nationals for the purposes of scientific research was adopted in 2005 in order to consolidate and give structure to European research policy, and make Europe become the most competitive and dynamic knowledge-based economy in the world by 2010.

In the Europe 2020 strategy, the EU confirmed its objective of ensuring smart economic growth which includes, in particular, improving the EU's performance in the field of research, innovations and education.

Taking these goals and the Treaty of Lisbon into account, does the Commission plan to propose revising the two Directives mentioned in the near future?

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