

Question for written answer E-009627/2016
to the Commission
Rule 130
Arne Gericke (ECR)

Subject: ESF funding for private and religious schools

The European Social Fund (ESF) provides extensive funding for schools to buy equipment and give further training to teaching staff. For example, the State of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania in Germany is putting around EUR 9 million into further training in the area of inclusion until 2020. However, this money is going exclusively to state schools.

1. Are there Commission regulations which limit ESF funding to purely public institutions and state schools?
2. Is the deliberate exclusion of private institutions – and therefore also religious schools – from ESF funding in line with EU regulations or is it counterproductive given that schoolchildren are not being treated equally?