

**Question for written answer E-009652/2016
to the Commission**

Rule 130

Antonio López-Istúriz White (PPE)

Subject: Support for gifted pupils and those with high intellectual ability

In recent years the Member States' education systems have been emphasising 'inclusive schooling', which promotes diversity in the classroom as opposed to segregation of pupils.

As far as pupils' intellectual abilities are concerned, diversity can take one of two forms, depending on whether it applies to pupils who have greater learning difficulties than the rest of their classmates or to those who are gifted or intellectually outstanding.

Because there are more pupils in the former category, schools have tended to focus their attention on them and there are now excellent assessment and educational support programmes to help such children. A pupil with high intellectual abilities does not, however, benefit from treatment of that kind.

Does the Commission provide any form of support to pupils in this latter category and their families? In other words, does it have any programme, project, plan, or fund to cover the special needs of these pupils and their families? Is it taking steps to ensure that these pupils, in every Member State, can have access to education commensurate with their abilities?