**Question for written answer E-001278/2019**

**to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Marlene Mizzi (S&D)**

Subject: Investment in equal education

There are clear differences in the quality of education and educational facilities in primary and secondary education across the European Union. This means that children and youngsters do not get the same start in life as they deserve to, since some have access to more varied language education, higher quality scientific education and better technology in class. While the Union’s goal is to make its population more digitally literate, many schools do not offer decent teaching in information and communication technology or offer it on equipment that is already outdated. In addition, there is a clear divide between the resources available to public versus private schools in countries where such a system is in place. Many countries also report understaffing and underpaid staff in schools, which impedes their students’ learning process.

How is the Commission planning to address these issues, and what means will it make available to each Member State to ensure that these shortcomings are remedied in the long term?