

**Question for written answer E-002509/2019
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Lefteris Nikolaou-Alavanos (NI)

Subject: Justified calls for measures to ensure that no child is denied a day nursery place

This year, thousands of children are still being denied day nursery places. The self-congratulatory message being sent by the incoming New Democracy government is adding insult to injury, while ignoring the fact that 17 250 children have been denied the necessary voucher owing to the strict income criteria adopted by the Syriza government, as a result of which thousands of families did not even apply, while children of public servants were excluded from the NSRF programme from the outset.

These are just a few of the serious consequences of EU policy and NSRF programmes, which the new Commission President has described as the 'European Child Guarantee'.

Because of the inadequacy of municipal day-nursery networks resulting from chronic underfunding and understaffing, working-class families are being forced to delve deep into their pockets to meet the basic needs of their children.

In view of this, can the Commission say:

1. Does the Commission acknowledge that such families are justified in calling for measures to ensure that no child is denied a day nursery place?
2. What view does it take of the fact that EU and NSRF approaches being decided and implemented by central, regional and municipal government, are seen as effectively denying thousands of children a day nursery place, while placing a heavy additional burden on parents seeking to provide their children with even a basic minimum level of education falling far short of their actual needs?