

**Question for written answer E-001492/2020  
to the Commission**  
Rule 138  
**Christine Anderson (ID)**

**Subject:** The Commission's plans for a common European education system

In an interview with Deutsche Welle <sup>1</sup>, when asked as to her priorities, Commissioner Mariya Gabriel replied, inter alia, that she would strive to promote the establishment of pan-European universities and that, as one of the tangible measures in this connection, she would launch a uniform European student identity card.

In one of the fact sheets published by the European Parliament, it says: 'In accordance with the subsidiarity principle, primary responsibility for education and training policies lies with the Member States, with the European Union functioning in a solely supporting role. However, certain challenges are common to all Member States — ageing societies, skill deficits in the workforce, global competition (...) — and thus call for joint responses, with countries working together and learning from each other.' <sup>2</sup>

While it is to be supported that certain common criteria be established, such as for the recognition of diplomas in the different Member States, the Commission appears to have some very ambitious objectives which call into question the competence of the Member States in the field of education.

1. Does the Commission have the intention to create an EU education system and do any specific criteria and plans exist, notably in connection with the European Education Area?
2. In addition to all European states, other countries such as Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan and Russia also participate in the Bologna process, so that the Bologna area ultimately borders China. Are pan-European universities to be established beyond the borders of the EU?
3. If so, why?

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.dw.com/de/eu-kommissarin-gabriel-der-brain-drain-ist-eine-riesige-herausforderung/a-51465059>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/factsheets/en/sheet/139/education-and-vocational-training>