

Question for written answer E-002691/2020
to the Commission
Rule 138
Alexis Georgoulis

Subject: Inequalities in access to distance school education

Because of the measures taken to contain the COVID-19 pandemic, 91% of students worldwide are out of school. Nevertheless, throughout Europe, teachers, academics and educational institutions are striving to cope with the meagre resources at their disposal. Measures therefore need to be taken to ensure that everyone without exception can enjoy the right to education which is enshrined in Article 14 of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, without discrimination (Article 21 of the ECHR). A lack of equipment, unfamiliarity with digital tools and the absence of broadband internet access for all are creating even greater inequalities.

In view of the above, will the Commission say:

1. Will it see to it that special resources are set up to ensure the funding of equipment for students and teachers and equal access to the Internet in order to facilitate the digital transition in the field of education?
2. What measures will it take to further train and familiarise teachers with the digital tools for distance learning?
3. Will it take special measures to ensure equal access to distance education for vulnerable groups, such as persons with disabilities?