

Question for written answer E-003597/2020
to the Commission
Rule 138
Cindy Franssen (PPE)

Subject: The impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the Erasmus+ programme

Since 1987, the Erasmus programme has enabled more than ten million young Europeans to go abroad to study or to work as volunteers. It is one of the best known examples of what the European Union is doing in concrete terms for its citizens. Young people have the opportunity to immerse themselves in a new culture, to look beyond their own horizons, to push back frontiers.

The coronavirus pandemic forced several Member States' to close their borders, universities embraced a digital approach to teaching and cultural activities became impossible. Even with the reopening of borders, mobility within the European Union is not easy. However, many young people hope to be able to spend a period abroad as students, as volunteers, as schoolchildren or as part of a youth exchange.

How does the European Commission intend to ensure that young people will continue to be able to benefit safely from the Erasmus+ programme in the future?