

**Question for written answer E-004104/2020
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Guido Reil (ID)

Subject: Albania and North Macedonia and the exodus of professionals

Albania and North Macedonia are suffering from an exodus of highly-qualified professionals. A global survey conducted by Gallup in 2019 shows that 60% of the adult population in Albania want to leave the country. This puts Albania at the top of the brain-drain index. Some 32% of all young Albanians with a high level of education and 30% of North Macedonians in the same category would like to do the same ¹. This looming loss of qualified workers would have a considerable impact on productivity.

1. Does the Commission agree that the accession of Albania and North Macedonia to the EU would further encourage the brain drain, which in turn would harm the two countries' economic and social development?
2. What measures is the Commission planning to tackle such a development?

¹ <https://exit.al/en/2019/01/05/gallup-survey-on-migration-and-brain-drain/>