

**Question for written answer E-002565/2021  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Education severely affected by the pandemic

A study by education specialists from the World Bank shows that educational losses are severe and suggests that urgent measures are needed to recover from the damage done to education. Following an analysis conducted in Europe and Central Asia, they show that society was unprepared for the shift to online education, and that this unforeseen event has had serious consequences.

The worst effects can be seen in deprived areas, in states and regions where, whether by choice or circumstance, people were not prepared for online learning. One of the most common reasons was a lack of understanding by families concerning their children's learning needs. In addition, when it comes to online learning, some families have neither the digital devices that make online learning possible, nor the internet connection or wireless internet.

Investments in education are the most sustainable investments a society can make in itself, which is why I agree with the World Bank's recommendations.

What solutions does the Commission have to protect the education budget and to prepare us for any future shocks?