

**Question for written answer E-004543/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Lefteris Nikolaou-Alavanos (NI)

Subject: Incorporating daily physical activity at all levels of education and expanding physical activity programmes

In August Greece's New Democracy government, through its General Secretariat of Sports, informed local authorities that it was suspending the 'Sports for All' programme. The programme is run by the local authorities, but the some 4 000 athletes involved in it are recruited and paid by the competent ministry.

There is in doubt that:

- non-communicable diseases, such as cancer and neurodegenerative diseases, cause premature death and disproportionately affect the working class population, whose income is being constantly squeezed by all bourgeois governments;
- under EU guidelines and anti-labour laws, workers are forced to work long, exhausting hours without a day off for several months;
- the importance of physical activity in the prevention and complementary treatment of all of the above diseases is well established.

In view of this, what is the Commission's view on:

1. the need to integrate into the school curriculum at all levels at least 60 minutes of physical activity per day and employ the necessary physical education graduates on a permanent, stable employment contract, as applicable?
2. the need to continue, expand and improve the state-funded free programmes run by the state / local authorities, such as 'Sports for All', employing physical education graduates, physicians and physiotherapists employed on a permanent, stable basis, to ensure the safety and health of participants?