

**Question for written answer E-005380/2021
to the Commission**
Rule 138
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Subject: Rising cases since the pandemic of online and offline bullying in schools

In the OECD's 2018 PISA (Programme for International Student Assessment) survey, 23% of students reported being physically or verbally bullied at school. The situation has deteriorated since cyberbullying via social media platforms became an issue in schools. The COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in lockdowns, has led to an upsurge in cases.

In addition to the 'Better Internet for Kids' platform that raises awareness about cyberbullying and the new 'Pathways to school success' initiative proposed under the EU strategy on the rights of the child that was published on 24 March 2021, will the Commission develop further initiatives to combat cyberbullying in schools, looking in particular at preventative measures for students and teachers?

The number of suicide attempts in children under 15 around the world has increased by 300% compared to the last decade. In France, since 1 January 2021, 18 children have committed suicide because of bullying in school.

Will the Commission step up its efforts to encourage Member States to work together and share information and strategies, in particular as regards psychological care for victims?