With regards to educational programmes in Greece, whilst the European Union is competent to encourage cooperation in education and to support the education actions of the Member States, the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (Article 165) makes clear that this must be done ‘while fully respecting the responsibility of the Member States for the content of teaching and the organisation of education systems’.

As regards the two mentioned projects implemented under the European Social Fund Human Resources Development Programme (2007-2013), the Commission is not informed of any irregularity. In line with the principle of shared management, it is primarily the responsibility of the Member State, namely the Managing Authority, to ensure that selected operations comply with applicable European Union and national law, including the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union Charter. In cases of irregularities or serious deficiencies, the Commission may use interruptions and suspensions of payments and/or apply financial corrections.

Moreover, the selection, approval and monitoring of such projects and beneficiaries of programmes falls under the competence of the national authorities and is governed by national eligibility rules. The same holds true for the project funded by the Grundvig Programme.