Question for written answer E-001069/2022 to the Commission Rule 138 Evelyn Regner (S&D)

Subject: 'Talents for Europe'

The EU is seeking to introduce a scheme for young people in order to create high-quality, varied and tailor-made training, traineeship and job opportunities in the EU.

Firms such as the Spanish-based 'Talents for Europe' (Austrian subsidiary located in Graz) have been offering young people an apprenticeship search service. The overall concept, which includes language courses, involves helping young people to find a suitable apprenticeship or job and helping businesses to fill relevant vacancies.

For the compulsory language courses, 'Talents for Europe' has been charging between EUR 2700 and EUR 2900. Apprentices (welders in Austria) earning EUR 704.64 net have had to pay the firm back EUR 100 a month for the language course, over a period of two years, with EUR 500 being payable immediately by the apprentices concerned, for the course, when they signed their contract. Austrian businesses have had to pay 'RISE ABOVE-Talents for Europe Österreich' about EUR 3000 for the placement of an apprentice. Placements have been arranged in the hotel, metalworking, cableway, food and trade sectors.

- 1. Do such programmes comply with EU law, and how does the Commission view such services?
- 2. Is the Commission aware of similar programmes and, if it is, is there an overview of such placement services?
- 3. Does the Commission intend to submit a quality and legal framework for apprentices?