Question for written answer E-001504/2022 to the Commission Rule 138 Karlo Ressler (PPE)

Subject: European Chips Act and education

The Commission, through the Chips Act, intends to double the EU's share in the chip (or microchip) market from 10% to at least 20% by 2030. The majority of advanced semiconductors are currently manufactured in Asia, so the Commission wants to focus on high-quality chips and technological sovereignty, given that supplies are currently sourced from a small number of non-European manufacturers.

While being aware of the opportunities and potential that the development of such an industry would have for the European economy, we need to think about ensuring a skilled workforce. Eurostat data from August 2021 show that there is a shortage of ICT experts in Europe and that European companies and entrepreneurs are facing difficulties in recruiting new employees.

How will the Commission encourage Member States to adapt their curricula, as part of their national education strategies, to the needs of the EU's digital transformation and technological development towards the semiconductor industry?