

**Question for written answer E-002945/2023
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: EU measures to tackle the shortage of teaching staff

Any improvement of the education systems in Europe depends largely on the availability and skills of teaching staff. Despite efforts to increase the attractiveness of the profession, current trends point to a considerable decrease in the number of teachers, especially in rural areas.

According to a Eurydice report, 35 education systems in Europe suffered a significant shortage of teachers in lower secondary education in the 2019-2020 school year.

Furthermore, UNESCO estimates that, across the globe, an additional 24.4 million teachers would be needed in primary education and 44.4 million in secondary education in order to achieve the goal of universal basic education,.

Since the deadline agreed for creating a European Education Area by 2025 is drawing ever nearer:

1. What solutions is the Commission envisaging to address the shortage of teaching staff across Europe and to avoid competition between Member States in this area?
2. In the context of the steps towards creating the European Education Area, what concrete proposals are there to support teachers and their teaching careers?

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