

**Question for written answer E-000474/2024
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Traditional artistic trades

Cypriot folk art and the artisans who practice it as a profession are dying out because they are unsustainable. This is mainly due to the fact that the relevant skills are not passed down to future generations, as folk art no longer features in the modern curriculum. Only a tiny group of people of an older generation practice traditional craftsmanship as a profession.

Sadly, throughout Europe we are seeing various curricula discarding traditional cultural education when it should be a part of national and European objectives and strategies. It seems that the EU's education policy is focusing less on non-formal education, when specific steps could be taken to give traditional artistic trades a boost and keep them alive.

One way of boosting cultural education and reviving the traditional arts is to foster them through targeted incentives, as this has a positive impact on employment and bridges the generation gap.

In view of this, can the Commission answer the following:

What targeted education programmes are being proposed or implemented and how, with a view to protecting the cultural heritage of folk art while at the same time fostering knowledge of tradition?

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