

**Priority question for written answer P-005546/2020  
to the Commission**

Rule 138

**Ignazio Corrao (NI)**

**Subject:** Sicily: no school for thousands of children with disabilities owing to a lack of assistance with health and hygiene

On 5 October 2020, the Commission published a communication on achieving the European Education Area by 2025.

Among the proposed measures, the Commission will develop policy guidance in cooperation with Member States and convene a group of experts to develop proposals on strategies for creating supportive learning environments for groups at risk of underachievement and for the establishment of 50 Centres of Vocational Excellence with Erasmus programme funding.

In addition, the Commission points out that governments, together with stakeholders, should foster inclusive education across all sectors of education and training in accordance with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

In a note of 23 September, the SGB trade union informed the Commission<sup>1</sup> of the situation of parents and workers in Sicilian schools, who for decades have been providing personal hygiene assistance to students with severe disabilities.

The Bureau of the National Association of Italian Municipalities (ANCI) for Sicily<sup>2</sup>, referring to CGA opinion No 115 of 8 May 2020<sup>3</sup> on the powers of the State and the Region, called for this serious problem to be resolved.

In view of this:

What is the Commission's opinion of this emergency?

Does the Region of Sicily meet the necessary requirements for the establishment of one of the 50 Centres of Vocational Excellence announced?

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<sup>1</sup> Note from the Sindacato Generale di Base (SGB)

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.anci.sicilia.it/assistenza-igienico-personale-per-alunni-disabili-anci-sicilia-sollecita-lufficio-scolastico-regionale-ad-assicurare-la-funzionalita-delle-scuole-comunali/>

<sup>3</sup> Opinion attached