Priority question for written answer P-001337/2021 to the Commission Rule 138 Benoît Lutgen (PPE)

Denoit Latger (1 1 L)

Subject: Recovery and Resilience Plan — discrimination in investment in the education sector

As part of the Belgian Recovery and Resilience Plan financed by the Recovery and Resilience Facility, the Wallonia-Brussels Federation plans to invest in the renovation of school buildings in the various categories of francophone educational establishments. The administration has established a distribution key which bears no relation to the number of pupils in each category. Thus, the establishments run under its direct authority (Wallonia-Brussels Education) would benefit from 58.5% of the funds, while 41.5% of the funds would be allocated to establishments in the subsidised categories, including free faith schools, which account for 85% of pupils.

According to the Regulation establishing the Recovery and Resilience Facility, the national plan should contribute to equal opportunities for all, in particular in relation to Principle 2 of the European Pillar of Social Rights. The latter provides for the absence of a distinction based inter alia on religion or belief, including in education and access to goods and services available to the public.

Can the Commission confirm that these provisions are discriminatory and do not comply with the various regulations?