

**Priority question for written answer P-003686/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Supporting Ukrainian higher education institutions and bringing them into the EU university community

Ukraine's higher education system has been severely disrupted by Russia's ruthless military onslaught. The infrastructure needed for higher education has been damaged and, in many cases, destroyed. 164 000 students have been forced to flee their homes and have lost access to higher education. Some students from Ukraine benefited from Erasmus+ mobility programmes and then stayed on to continue their studies in Europe. Almost one in two of them do not intend to return to Ukraine to continue their studies. There is a serious risk that this will lead to a brain drain and the stagnation of local universities. The problem could be partly addressed by the creation of a common network, along the lines of the Transform4Europe alliance.

Could the Commission answer the following questions:

1. Is the Commission considering the possibility of launching a special fund to financially support the activities of higher education institutions and their reconstruction after the war in Ukraine?
2. Would the Commission consider launching a specific programme, along the lines of Transform4Europe, to create a network to connect universities in Ukraine with those in the EU?

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