

Question for written answer E-014843/2015
to the Commission
Rule 130
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Subject: Need for a European scholarship fund for outstanding European students

Europe's most important economic and social asset is its human capital. It is well known that, European economic crisis is resulting in a 'brain drain' of major proportions, depriving the EU of many of its brightest and best.

We can also see a growing number of excellent students being held back through lack of funds, with the result that many of those with enormous potential are failing to embark on postgraduate or doctoral studies or alternatively are choosing to go to North America or other countries where they are able to obtain employment, grants and support in furthering their academic careers.

I believe that the EU could, with a minimum investment, create an EU-wide scholarship fund that would be enormously beneficial to Europe in educational, economic and social terms. It is important for the EU to provide an effective response to the continuous loss of its best people and its failure to benefit from the abilities of brilliant young European academics.

In view of this:

What view does the Commission take of the proposal to create a European scholarship fund, and how does it intend to safeguard Europe's human capital and prevent it being lost to third countries?