Question for written answer E-015365/2015 to the Commission Rule 130 Adam Szejnfeld (PPE)

Subject: Promoting Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs

Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs is an EU programme which provides future entrepreneurs and those just starting out with the opportunity to learn from experienced entrepreneurs running small businesses in other European countries and gain professional contacts.

In an era of globalised markets, supporting training and mobility for young people is vital to Europe's competitiveness. The EU needs people who have experience of culturally and organisationally different workplaces and who are open to engaging in business activities, including in the international arena.

In the six years since Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs was set up, only a few thousand people have taken advantage of it. It seems the problem is not that the programme is unattractive, but rather that there is insufficient knowledge about it. In addition, there are too few contact points and often a potential entrepreneur has to travel several hundred kilometres to sign the relevant documents.

What action is the Commission planning to take to promote the Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs programme, and to cut red tape and make it easier to process applications electronically? Does the Commission have an in-depth analysis of the functioning of the programme and its impact on the internationalisation of economic activity in the EU?

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