

**Question for written answer E-014917/2015/rev.1  
to the Commission  
Rule 130  
István Ujhelyi (S&D)**

Subject: Centralisation and education: Orbán's reforms

Various articles in the Hungarian press have discussed the fact that as a result of the centralisation of schooling under the Orbán government, the Educational Institution Maintenance Centres (KLIK) in each education authority area are to designate certain educational institutions as school centres. According to information which has become public knowledge, the aim of the plan is, wherever possible, to close small schools (schools where there is only one class for each academic year) and bus the pupils to the school centres so designated. The reports also indicate that the Educational Institution Maintenance Centre is to take over from local authorities the operational financing of school centres designated in large settlements. At the minimum, it needs to be explained how, according to this plan, it is intended that these centralising and logistical tasks should be carried out with EU funding, particularly drawing on the Human Resources Development Operational Programme.

- On the basis of what criterion does the Commission consider access to education to be guaranteed?
- Does the Commission know that the Hungarian Government is intending to pay for the operation of the centralised system from EU sources?
- Are similar education systems operating in other Member States? How successfully?