Question for written answer E-002428/2024
to the Commission
Rule 144
Catherine Griset (PfE)

Subject: Stopping Erasmus+ funding for universities with links to Islamists

The European press[1] has revealed that Erasmus+ has been used to benefit Gaziantep University in Türkiye, whose rector publicly paid tribute to Ismail Haniyeh, leader of Hamas, an organisation listed as a terrorist organisation by the EU. The university's leadership has also called for a boycott of Israel and has taken part in pro-Hamas demonstrations.

On 12 September, the university announced that it was receiving EUR 250 000 under a research project fully funded by the Commission – funding that, in the meantime, has been suspended following revelation of this scandal.

1. Can the Commission say how much in total has been received by that university since it joined the Erasmus+ programme?

2. What measures will the Commission be taking in future to prevent any other institution that promotes Islamism, gender inequality, the persecution of religious minorities and terrorism from receiving Erasmus+ funding?

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[1] https://www.lejdd.fr/societe/erasmus-lunion-europeenne-sous-le-feu-des-critiques-pour-avoir-integre-une-universite-pro-hamas-150023