

Question for written answer E-003279/2025
to the Commission
Rule 144
Aldo Patriciello (PfE)

Subject: Transparency in the evaluations of the Erasmus+ Youth programme

The Erasmus+ Youth programme is key to promoting youth participation and skills development. However, significant issues have arisen as regards transparency in the evaluation of the projects. For instance:

- limited access to information: applicants whose projects are not approved can only submit formal remarks, without any real possibility of a review, and are not permitted to see which projects have been approved, which makes comparison difficult and undermines transparency;
- discretionary decisions without proper justifications, with projects often being rejected despite conforming to the guidelines, which breeds distrust in the system;
- anonymity of the evaluators and a lack of clarity as to how they are chosen, with no transparency over who is conducting the evaluation or the criteria on which this is based, and with no safeguards to prevent bias or conflicts of interest;
- potential unregulated use of artificial intelligence for the evaluations, with the risk of these being superficial and based on keywords rather than qualitative analyses;
- lack of clear feedback to help improve proposals;
- differences between the relevant public and private national agencies, which impacts on transparency.

In the light of the above, can the Commission answer the following questions:

1. Does it not feel that steps should be taken to ensure greater transparency and publish the names of the evaluators and the criteria they apply?
2. Does it not consider that an appeals procedure and the possibility of accessing approved projects should be introduced?

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