Question for oral answer O-000043/2025
to the Commission
Rule 142
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Subject: Manipulation of the Erasmus+ programme as a new channel for immigration and exclusion of Hungarian universities from the programme

On 17 October 2025, the Commission announced an extension of the Erasmus+ programme to countries of the southern and eastern Mediterranean. Under the ‘Pact for the Mediterranean’, with a budget of EUR 42 billion, Erasmus+ will facilitate the issuing of student visas, thereby creating a new migration channel.

This manipulation of Erasmus+ is all the more scandalous given that almost all Hungarian universities have been excluded from the programme since September 2023. The Commission is using the pretext of a conflict of interest owing to the presence of members from the conservative movement on the boards of directors.

1. Is the Commission intending to make Erasmus+ a new legal route for migration?

2. What objective criteria are applied to ensure that the Commission’s sanctions do not target only conservative universities and teachers, while left-dominated universities, through a co-opting process that has become problematic, benefit from total indulgence?

3. How can the Commission claim to defend academic freedom while sanctioning Hungary for its academic independence, even though it provides funding to institutions which have an explicit political orientation?

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