

(English version)

**Priority question for written answer P-001354/26
to the Commission
Lina Gálvez (S&D)
(1 April 2026)**

Subject: Diversion of EU funding earmarked for the inclusive education of pupils with special educational needs in Andalusia

Andalusian families, represented by the MIDE association, have alerted the European Parliament's Committee on Petitions to the Andalusian Government's breach of the right of pupils with special educational needs to inclusive education. They report that the EU funds allocated to this purpose have not been used to strengthen direct support in the classroom, but have instead been diverted to outsourced services provided by private companies outside school hours, leaving the pupils' real needs unmet.

These families are calling for a sufficient, permanent allocation of specialist staff at all schools and warn of a progressive deterioration in public education in Andalusia, leading to increased discrimination against pupils with special needs.

They stress that in so doing, the Andalusian Government is failing to meet the stated aims for the implementation of EU funding

1. What view does the Commission take of this complaint regarding the diversion of European funds intended for inclusive education for children in Andalusia with special educational needs?
2. What does the Commission intend to do about this?

Submitted: 1.4.2026

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Mînzatu on behalf of the European Commission
(20 May 2026)**

As explained in the framework of the petition 1487/25, within the limits of its competence and responsibility, the Commission is firmly committed to advancing inclusive education and, at the same time, ensuring the effective, regular use of European funds (like the cohesion policy funds or the Recovery and Resilience Facility).

Particularly, Member States are required ⁽¹⁾, when using cohesion policy funds for education, to provide a strategic framework ensuring equal access to inclusive, non-segregated education.

In Spain, this strategic framework is primarily provided through Law 3/2020 ⁽²⁾, which includes key provisions on inclusive education for pupils with special educational needs. It establishes inclusive education as a core principle of the education system, ensuring tailored support for all pupils.

Contributing to this objective, the European Social Fund+ (ESF+) supports in Andalusia several measures for pupils with special educational needs (including students with disabilities) with an allocated amount of EUR153 million, targeting over 102 800 children by 2029.

The ESF+ helps students across different stages of education through permanent or contracted staff who help meet their individual needs. These measures are executed by the regional government.

According to the Spanish authorities, the above-mentioned funding has been earmarked exclusively for curriculum support in public schools and provides free educational services and support carried out in the classroom and during school hours.

During the monitoring committees and review meetings, the Commission will continue to monitor the effective use of the cohesion policy funds for pupils with special educational needs in Spain in accordance with the EU regulation.

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) 2021/1060 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2021 laying down common provisions (Annex IV, Thematic Enabling Condition 4.3, criteria 3) <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32021R1060>.

⁽²⁾ Education law 3/2020 of 29 December 2020, that modifies the Education law 2/2006 of 3 May 2006.