

WRITTEN QUESTION E-0622/08
by Karl von Wogau (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: University tuition fees in the Czech Republic

The Masaryk University in Brno is charging tuition fees of between EUR 1 600 to 8 500 for Ph.D programmes in a foreign language for the 2007/2008 academic year. Students registering for the Ph.D programme in Czech are not required to pay these fees. Furthermore, in at least some of the foreign-language study programmes, no additional courses are offered in the foreign language in question. Instead, conversations are simply held with students in English, for example. This means that non-Czech-speaking students are penalised financially.

Does the Commission consider that this is a case of discrimination between European Union citizens, based on language rather than on nationality?

Is the Commission of the opinion that, in this case, the tuition fees imposed on non-Czech-speaking students constitute an infringement of European law?