

3 March 2021

The European Commission puts out a new strategy to protect the rights of persons with disabilities

News in easy to read

Easy to read is information
that is written in a simple way
so that persons with intellectual disabilities
and all people can understand it.

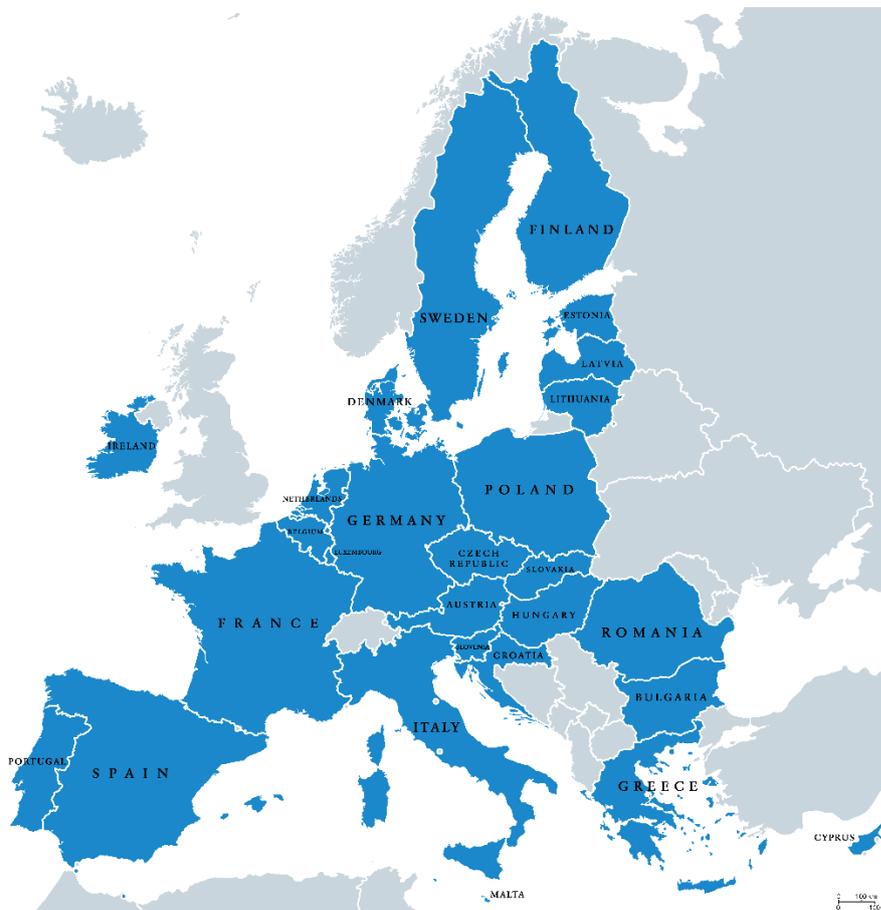


Words you need to know before you read this text

European Union

The **European Union** is a group of 27 countries in Europe.

These countries came together to make things better, easier and safer for people.



European Commission

The **European Commission** is the body of the European Union that runs its day-to-day work. It takes actions and suggests laws for the European Union.



The European Commission puts out a new strategy to protect the rights of persons with disabilities

On 3 March 2021, the European Commission put out a new European strategy on the rights of persons with disabilities for 2021-2030.

In short, we call it

‘Strategy for Persons with Disabilities’.

The Strategy for Persons with Disabilities is a plan that says how the European Union will work to protect the rights of persons with disabilities in the next 10 years.



With this plan, the European Commission wants to make sure that persons with disabilities in the European Union can enjoy their rights and have the same chances in life as everyone else.

It also wants to help persons with disabilities who live in countries outside the European Union.

For example, those who live in poorer countries of the world.

To do this, in the next 10 years, the European Commission will work to make things better for persons with disabilities especially in these areas:

1. Free movement in the European Union

Free movement means that all persons in the European Union have the right to move, work, study and live in any country of the European Union. For example, a German person can move to France to study or work.



Sadly, free movement is often hard or impossible for persons with disabilities. Moving to another country of the European Union can be hard for them because:

- The new country may not recognise their disability.
- They may not get the support they need to live there.

In the next 10 years, the European Commission will work to make sure that persons with disabilities can enjoy the right to free movement too. It wants to make a strong 'European Disability Card' that will make it easier for persons with disabilities to get the right support when they move to another country of the European Union.



2. Independent living

Persons with disabilities have the right to live independently and make their own choices about their lives. For example, they have the right to decide where, how and with whom they want to live.



Countries in Europe should make sure that all persons with disabilities can enjoy this right.

Sadly, some persons with disabilities in Europe live in institutions away from the community. They may not be able to make their own choices in life.



In the next 10 years, the European Commission will work to help persons with disabilities get the right support to be able to live independently and take part in the community like everyone else.



3. Same chances in life

Persons with disabilities should have the same chances in life as everyone else. For example, they should have the chance to:

- Study and work.
- Get good health care when they are sick.
- Play sports.
- Go to a museum or an art gallery.
- Visit places as tourists.



These things should be accessible to persons with disabilities



so that they can take part in the community like everyone else.

Persons with disabilities should not be left out and be treated badly or unfairly because they have a disability.



In the next 10 years, the European Commission will work to make more things accessible to persons with disabilities and help them to have the same chances in life as other people.

How to make the Strategy for Persons with Disabilities happen

To make the Strategy for Persons with Disabilities happen and make things better for persons with disabilities, the European Commission will work together with all countries in the European Union. It will also work together with organisations of persons with disabilities and hear their views.

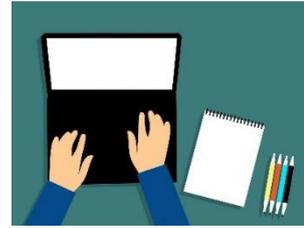


To make working together easier, the European Commission will make a 'Disability Platform' where they will all:

- Share their knowledge and help each other.
- Show the progress they do to make the Strategy for Persons with Disabilities happen.

More information

If you have questions about the Strategy for Persons with Disabilities, you can send us an email at: EMPL-C3-UNIT@ec.europa.eu.



This easy to read text is written by Lila Sylviti and checked by Soufiane El Amrani. You can find more information about easy to read at: easy-to-read.eu.

