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# **Overview of the EU Disability Rights Strategy**

September 2022 Haydn Hammersley

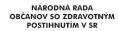
















## **The chapters**

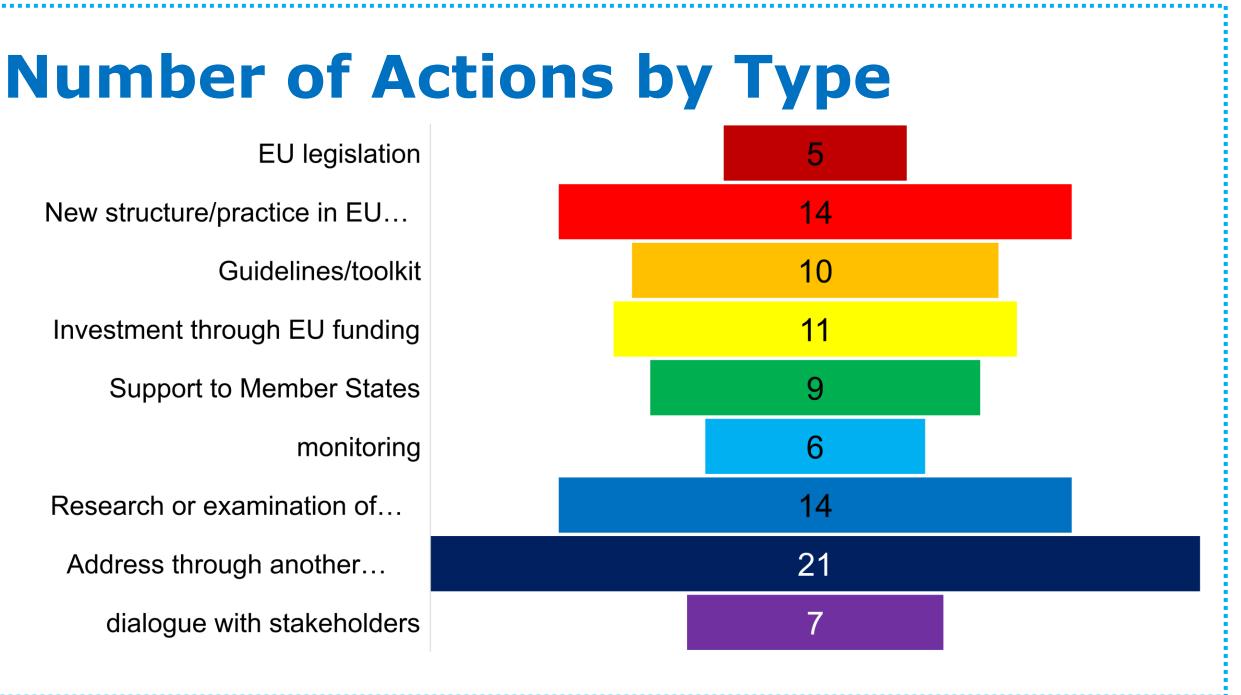
- Accessibility an enabler of rights, autonomy and equality
- Enjoying EU Rights
- Decent quality of life and living independently
- Equal Access and non-discrimination
- · Promoting the rights of persons with disabilities globally
- Efficiently delivering the strategy
- Leading by example

## **Number of Actions by Type**

- Hard EU legislation (create new or review existing) = 5
- New Structure/practice in the EU institutions = 14
- EU Guidelines/toolkit = 10
- Investment through EU funding = 11
- Support to Member States in national policies = 9

## **Number of Actions by Type**

- inclusion of disability indicators in assessments / establishing ways to monitor Strategy = 6
- Examine or commission research on an issue = 14
- Address through another strategy = 21
- Set up dialogue with stakeholders = 7
- Calls for MS to take action themselves = 20



# The Hard Legislation

## The hard legislation

#### 4 reviews of existing legislation

- legislative framework on energy performance of buildings, with an impact on accessibility
- $\circ \mbox{Passenger}$  rights regulatory framework including rights for persons with disabilities and reduced mobility
- Regulation on Union Guidelines for the development of the trans-European transport network to strengthen the provision on accessibility
- OUNCRPD included in the revision of the EU's Generalised Scheme of Preferences Regulation incentivising compliance by the related trade partners (international cooperation).

### **The hard legislation**

#### 1 new piece of legislation "if appropriate"

 Follow up with a legal proposal to strengthen the role of equality bodies (to support implementation of the EU Employment Equality Directive)

## **The Flagship Initiatives**

- In 2022 the Commission will launch a European resource centre AccessibleEU
- It will increase coherence in accessibility policies and facilitate access to relevant knowledge.
- Will bring together national authorities responsible for implementing and enforcing accessibility rules with experts and professionals from all areas of accessibility
- Share good practices across sectors and develop tools and standards aiming to facilitate implementation of EU law.

- Creation of a European Disability Card by end of 2023
- view to be recognised in all Member States
- will build on the experience of the ongoing EU Disability Card pilot project and upon the European parking card for persons with disabilities.

- By 2023, issue guidance recommending to MS improvements on independent living and inclusion in the community
- MS should enable persons with disabilities to live in accessible, supported housing in the community, or to continue living at home (including personal assistance schemes).

- By 2024 a framework for Social Services of Excellence for persons with disabilities
- to improve service delivery for persons with disabilities and to enhance the attractiveness of jobs in this area including through upskilling and reskilling of service providers.

- In 2022 a package to improve labour market outcomes of persons with disabilities
- will support MS in the implementation of the relevant Employment Guidelines through the European Semester.
- Will provide guidance and support mutual learning on strengthening capacities of employment and integration services, promoting hiring perspectives, ensuring reasonable accommodation, securing health and safety at work and vocational rehabilitation schemes in case of chronic diseases or accidents, exploring quality jobs in sheltered employment, and pathways to the open labour market.

- In 2021 Commission will establish the Disability Platform to replace the existing High-Level Group on Disability
- Will support the implementation of this Strategy as well as national disability strategies.
- will bring together national UNCRPD focal points, organisations of persons with disabilities and the Commission.
- forum to exchange on the UN's assessments of Member States' implementation of the UNCRPD.
- Online presence of the Disability Platform will contain information on its meetings, activities, analysis, and country information, including promotion of accessible and inclusive good practices.

- The Commission will adopt a **renewed HR strategy**
- will include actions to promote diversity and inclusion of persons with disabilities
- invites EPSO to complement these efforts in collaboration with other recruiting EU institutions.

## Thank you for your attention

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