

**Question for written answer E-007968/2015
to the Commission**

Rule 130

José Blanco López (S&D)

Subject: Voting for people with disabilities in the EU

According to the Spanish Committee of Representatives of Persons with Disabilities (CERMI), only eight Member States include political participation in their strategies for the integration of the disabled. Furthermore, they estimate that in Spain less than half of the polling stations are accessible to people with disabilities. This means that over 80 000 people with a recognised disability would have their right to vote severely impeded by situations ranging from the lack of a ramp for wheelchairs to declarations of mental incapacity. Down Spain and the Spanish Confederation of Organisations for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities (FEAPS) have also spoken out against this situation.

According to these sources, millions of citizens are likely to have been excluded from voting in the elections to the European Parliament, giving rise to a report by the EU Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA). For its part, Spain does not comply with the provisions of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, under which no one with a disability has their voting rights restricted. Spain ratified the Convention in 2008, but the Organic Law on Election Reform has not yet been amended.

What is the situation in Spain and in the EU and what measures does the Commission intend to adopt?