

**Question for written answer E-011529/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Ivan Jakovčić (ALDE)

Subject: Architectural barriers and the elderly

Disabled and mobility-restricted people have differing capabilities, and experience a wide range of difficulties when using conventional public transport facilities, modes of transport and information services. This group consists of the elderly and the infirm, children, expectant mothers and people who are recovering from an accident, illness or operation.

When eliminating barriers and problems associated with using public transport, policy makers, planners and operators must always have the needs of mobility-restricted people in mind. Accessibility should be dealt with in an integrated way and it should not be the domain of building or transport experts alone, but should be achieved by coordination among all the actors involved.

There is an urgent need to adapt existing , and plan future, infrastructure in such a way that mobility-restricted people feel as integrated as possible into cities. This should take place at EU level.

Given the positive outcomes of coordinated action such as this in the planning phase, how could the EU start thinking about totally barrier-free European cities from a policy-making point of view?