

**Question for written answer E-000935/2016  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

**Helga Stevens (ECR), Ádám Kósa (PPE), Olga Sehnalová (S&D), Brando Benifei (S&D), Jana Žitňanská (ECR), Rosa Estaràs Ferragut (PPE) and Marian Harkin (ALDE)**

Subject: Unit for Persons with Disabilities in Commission's DG EMPL

The EU acceded to the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) on 23 December 2010. The EU has since then been reviewed by the CRPD Committee, which has issued its Concluding observations on the initial report of the European Union (CRPD/C/EU/CO/1). The CRPD is a human rights treaty ensuring equal rights for persons with disabilities, yet the current Commission has been restructured to include the Unit for Persons with Disabilities within the Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion DG (EMPL. C Social Affairs).

1. While we acknowledge the importance of equal employment and social inclusion for persons with disabilities, could the Commission explain why the unit is part of this DG, indirectly promoting the misconception that disabled people require passive social assistance, as opposed to them being active rights holders and citizens in their own right?
2. Could the Commission further outline why disability is not mainstreamed in all DGs that form part of the overarching fundamental rights portfolio, as part of a horizontal approach, or, alternatively, why a separate DG for persons with disabilities is not set up?