

Question for written answer E-006536/2016
to the Commission
Rule 130
Therese Comodini Cachia (PPE)

Subject: Access to justice for persons with disabilities

Effective and accessible justice systems play a crucial role in upholding the rule of law and the Union's fundamental values. Improving the effectiveness and accessibility of national justice systems is one of the priorities of the EU Justice Scoreboard, produced in the context of the European Semester.

At the same time, accessibility is a vital pre-condition for effective and equal enjoyment of different civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights by persons with disabilities. Article 47 of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights sets out the general right of access to justice. Persons with disabilities should have access, on an equal basis with others, to the physical environment, information and communications, and to other facilities and services open to the public.

1. What type of monitoring of Member States is being carried out at EU level to ensure that persons with disabilities have equal access to justice?
2. How does the Commission monitor whether Member States are taking the appropriate measures to ensure support for persons with disabilities, including providing sign language and using accessible formats, braille and easy-read?
3. Does the Commission take into consideration access to justice for persons with disabilities in the EU Justice Scoreboard as one of the accessibility indicators?