

**Question for written answer E-001129/2018**  
**to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Notis Marias (ECR)**

Subject: Measures to stop the scrapping of the disability allowance for persons with autism in Greece

Protecting the rights of persons with disabilities is a priority of the European Union. By decrees issued in December 2017 and January 2018, the Greek government has, on the basis of unscientific criteria, reduced the minimum degree of disability recognised for autism from 67% to 50%.

Given that that threshold for the payment of a disability allowance in Greece is a degree of disability of 67%, the new legislation, and in particular Law 4512/2018, deprives thousands of persons with autism, who had so far been categorised as 67% disabled or more, of their right to receive a disability allowance.

The payment of disability allowances to persons with autism is a core measure of welfare and social protection in Greece.

The new legislation, which aims to suspend the payment of the disability allowance to thousands of beneficiaries, sets intelligence, functionality and adulthood as criteria for determining the degree of disability. However, these criteria are inapplicable to autism and have absolutely nothing to do with the degree of disability of persons with autism.

The new legislation violates the EU Treaties, the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, the European Social Charter and EU law.

Will the Commission say:

What steps will it take to force the Greek authorities to stop violating the rights of persons with autism and to oblige them to continue to grant disability allowances to persons with autism who were formerly eligible?