

WRITTEN QUESTION E-5076/07
by Ljudmila Novak (PPE-DE)
to the Commission

Subject: The ratification and implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities is the first human rights convention to include a specific article on International Cooperation, Article 32, which requires all development programmes and projects to be inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities.

If this Convention is implemented in a comprehensive way, it will considerably improve the quality of life of millions of persons with disabilities who live today often in severe and chronic poverty in developing countries.

We are aware of the fact that the European Community has signed up to the Convention as a regional integration organisation, and we would like to know more details about the following points.

- What is the state of progress with regard to the ratification process at European level?
- How does the European Commission intend to drive forward this process?