

WRITTEN QUESTION E-4620/08
by Erika Mann (PSE)
to the Commission

Subject: Concessions for people with disabilities in the European Union

People with disabilities in the European Union who have an identity document for the disabled often enjoy concessions in their respective home countries. In some cases these documents and the concessions associated with them are clearly not recognised in other Member States. This means that a person with a disability from Germany, for example, wishing to use the bridge to La Rochelle must pay the full price, whilst a disabled person from France is charged at a lower rate.

The following questions arise from this:

1. Is there a list of concessions available to people with disabilities in each Member State?
2. What steps can be taken to ensure mutual recognition of national identity documents for the disabled while not engendering too much red tape?
3. Can the Commission envisage a proposal for a binding European identity document for the disabled having any chance of being approved in the context of the current adoption procedure of the Directive on implementing the principle of equal treatment (COM(2008)426)?