

**Question for written answer E-001562/2013
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Vilija Blinkevičiūtė (S&D)

Subject: Legislation on accessibility in the European Union

It is very important to provide all EU citizens, under equal conditions, with the opportunity to participate in public life and to use infrastructure, transport and information and communication technologies. A long time ago the Commission expressed its intention to give effect to the idea of a 'Europe without barriers' and to bring forward a European Accessibility Act.

When does the Commission plan to present this proposal? What would be the time frame for its implementation in the Member States? Will it only concern access by disabled people to goods and services, or will it also encompass other categories of people with accessibility needs, including pregnant women, the elderly and people accompanying small children? This legislation would offer thousands of people with disabilities a better quality of life and the opportunity to take an active part in society.