

**Question for written answer E-001541/2017/rev.1  
to the Commission**  
Rule 130  
**Ádám Kósa (PPE)**

Subject: Accessibility to the physical environment, including EU institution buildings

Article 9 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) – a treaty signed by the European Union – enshrines accessibility to the physical environment, including buildings. More specifically, Article 9(2)(a) of the CRPD highlights that one important way of making the physical environment accessible is to ‘develop, promulgate, and monitor the implementation of minimum standards and guidelines for the accessibility of facilities and services open or provided to the public’. Ensuring accessibility of the built environment is also a key feature of the commitments made as part of the European Disability Strategy (2010-2020).

The pavement in front of the new European Council building in Brussels, which includes a tactile guidance strip, is hazardous on account of the many obstacles in the middle of the strip, leading blind and visually impaired persons straight into lampposts.

How will the Commission ensure that the European institution buildings and their surrounding environment are accessible for people with disabilities, including blind and visually impaired persons?