Question for written answer  E-005582/2020

to the Commission

Rule 138

Ádám Kósa (PPE), Giorgos Georgiou (GUE/NGL), Alexis Georgoulis (GUE/NGL), Brando Benifei (S&D), Chiara Gemma (NI), Marianne Vind (S&D), Milan Brglez (S&D), Josianne Cutajar (S&D), Ivan Štefanec (PPE), Chrysoula Zacharopoulou (Renew), Atidzhe Alieva-Veli (Renew), Loucas Fourlas (PPE), José Gusmão (GUE/NGL), Marisa Matias (GUE/NGL), Isabel Carvalhais (S&D), Dražo Pislaru (Renew), Anne-Sophie Pelletier (GUE/NGL), Alex Agius Saliba (S&D), Tanja Fajon (S&D), Rosa Estarás Ferragut (PPE), Pascal Durand (Renew), Kim Van Sparrentak (Verts/ALE), Jaroslav Duda (PPE), Samira Rafaela (Renew), Katrin Langensiepen (Verts/ALE), Younous Omarjee (GUE/NGL), Eva Kall (S&D), Ibán García Del Blanco (S&D), Cindy Franssen (PPE), Benoît Lutgen (PPE), Estrella Durá Ferrandis (S&D), Mónica Silvana González (S&D), Alicia Homs Ginel (S&D), Abir Al-Sahlani (Renew), Maria Walsh (PPE), Radka Maxová (Renew)

Subject: Inappropriate terms used by Eurostat

It has come to our attention that the Statistical Classification of Economic Activities in the European Community section of the Eurostat Reference and Management of Nomenclatures server\(^1\) contains some terms that are inappropriate.

In section Q, ‘Human health and social work activities’, subsection Q87, ‘Residential care activities’, one of the items is ‘Residential care activities for mental retardation’ and another is ‘Residential care activities for the elderly and disabled’. The latter wording is also found in subsection Q88, ‘Social work activities without accommodation’, which mentions ‘social work activities without accommodation for the elderly and disabled’.

Taking into account the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Commission’s existing policies regarding older people:

1. Does the Commission consider the use of terminology such as ‘mental retardation’, ‘the elderly’ and ‘the disabled’ to be appropriate?

2. Does it plan to ask Eurostat to update these terms to refer more respectfully to persons with intellectual disabilities, older people and persons with disabilities? If so, when?

3. Does the Commission have an editorial policy to reflect a more human-rights-based approach through inclusive language?

\(^1\) [https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/index.cfm?TargetUrl=DSP_PUB_WELC](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/index.cfm?TargetUrl=DSP_PUB_WELC)