

**Question for written answer E-003578/2021
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Mónica Silvana González (S&D), **María Soraya Rodríguez Ramos** (Renew), **Rosa Estaràs Ferragut** (PPE), **Eugenia Rodríguez Palop** (The Left), **Katrin Langensiepen** (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Disability in international cooperation

The European Strategy on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030 provides a framework for the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) by the EU and its Member States, who have the responsibility to ensure that all their policies and programmes related to external action and international cooperation are disability-inclusive and in line with the CRPD, including the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In 2017, the Commission launched the initiative 'Bridging the Gap – Inclusive Policies and Services for Equal Rights of Persons with Disabilities' (BtG). The project has obtained important results, with some noticeable impacts. It has been able to maximise the EU's efforts for disability-inclusive development, in line not only with the CRPD and the SDGs but also with the EU Consensus on Development, to create an innovative form of cooperation, joining public institutions and civil society, and to establish strong synergies with external stakeholders, determining a multiplier effect for inclusion of persons with disabilities in international cooperation. But this project will be ending in a few months.

How is the Commission therefore intending to push forward in the field of development cooperation in the framework of the Disability Strategy?