

**Question for written answer E-000149/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Izaskun Bilbao Barandica (Renew)

Subject: Down Syndrome and the Paralympic Games

In March 2021, the Commission presented its new disability rights strategy, which includes non-discrimination and equal opportunities among its main principles. This strategy focuses on protecting persons with disabilities from any form of discrimination or violence. Its aim is to ensure equal access and opportunities to a variety of activities and services, including sports. In recent months, there has been a Europe-wide movement working to eradicate one form of discrimination which already exists: the exclusion of persons with down syndrome from the official Paralympic Games. This problem should be addressed due to the number of people affected by it, the rise in the number of sporting events which allow persons with down syndrome to participate, and the positive effect that their inclusion in the Paralympic Games could have.

In light of the above:

1. Is the Commission in favour of this proposal?
2. Does the Commission plan to promote or support this proposal through the Disability Platform, which the disability strategy foresees to bring together authorities and organisations for persons with disabilities?
3. Has there been progress with the implementation of the AccessibleEU resource centre, which, according to the disability strategy, is due to start operating in 2022 and how will it address inclusive sports exactly?