

Question for written answer E-003290/2022
to the Commission
Rule 138
Cindy Franssen (PPE)

Subject: Follow-up question on access to public transport for wheelchair users

Further to my parliamentary question (E-003365/2019) of 18 October 2019, I would like to ask about the state of play regarding the issues below, which continue to be a problem.

Under Regulation (EC) No 661/2009, all Class I vehicles of category M2 or M3 with a capacity exceeding 22 passengers must be accessible for persons with reduced mobility, including wheelchair users. The mandatory technical criteria are set out in more detail in Regulation No 107 of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), to which the European Regulation also refers. However, current legislation has not been adapted to the larger dimensions of the latest automated wheelchairs. This is effectively preventing many wheelchair users from travelling on public buses.

1. Is the Commission aware that the current accessibility provisions fail to take sufficient account of the wider bulk of many new wheelchairs?
2. What specific measures are being envisaged by the Commission to adapt wheelchair accessibility requirements on public transport to the greater width of the more recent wheelchair models and when does it propose to introduce them?
3. Does it intend to review the provisions of Regulation (EC) No 661/2009 in the near future?