

**Priority question for written answer P-001723/2023/rev.1
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Monika Vana (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Complaints regarding the use of EAFRD funds for institutions for persons with disabilities in Austria

Independent Living Austria (ILA) and the European Network on Independent Living (ENIL) submitted complaints to the European Commission concerning the use of EAFRD funds for institutions for persons with disabilities in Upper Austria¹, Tyrol² and Carinthia³. EAFRD funds were used for the construction and renovation of institutions for persons with disabilities, although the institutionalisation of persons with disabilities is in breach of Article 19 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities⁴. Austria lacks a deinstitutionalisation strategy, tailored personal assistance and community-based mobile services.

1. Does the Commission consider that civil society participation is sufficiently taken into account in EAFRD-supported projects for persons with disabilities in Austria?
2. Is the Commission aware that the Austrian Disability Council criticised the allocation of funds at a meeting of the EAFRD monitoring group in 2019?

Submitted: 30.5.2023

1 https://enil.eu/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Reply-to-commission_ENIL_ILA_August2021_.pdf

2 <https://enil.eu/press-release-disability-groups-file-second-complaint-against-austria-for-eu-funds-misuse/>

3 https://enil.eu/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Complaint_3_by-ENIL_and_Independent-Living-Austria_021122.pdf

4 Vgl. Unabhängiger Monitoringausschuss (2016) Stellungnahme De-Institutionalisierung, https://www.monitoringausschuss.at/download/stellungnahmen/de-institutionalisierung/MA_SN_DeInstitutionalisierung_final.pdf; vgl. Ausschuss für die Rechte von Menschen mit Behinderungen (2017). Allgemeine Bemerkung Nr.5 zum selbstbestimmten Leben und Inklusion in die Gemeinschaft, https://www.institut-fuer-menschenrechte.de/fileadmin/Redaktion/PDF/DB_Menschenrechtsschutz/CRPD/CRPD_Allg_Bemerkung_5.pdf.