

**Question for written answer E-000815/2026
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Regina Doherty (PPE)

Subject: Disabled parking permits

The new specifications for the EU disabled parking permit are to be introduced in 2027/2028. In the new design the photograph of the permit holder is no longer required. This change will severely hinder those involved in policing disabled parking spaces as the new design does not allow the inclusion of a photograph on the permit.

Disabled parking spaces are a very precious resource for disabled motorists. The removal of the photograph will certainly reduce the ability of the police and parking enforcement officials to ensure that disabled spaces are properly managed. While recognising that in the future there will be more digital enforcement of the scheme, the reality is that the digitalisation of the scheme is currently many years away and for the foreseeable future the physical permit will remain in operation. It is also worth noting that many EU countries have mandatory ID schemes which may remove the requirement for a photograph on the permit in certain locations. No such scheme is in place in Ireland.

This issue has the potential to become a very significant source of concern within the disabled community. Is there a possibility of retaining the photograph on the permit?

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