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Answer given by Ms Lahbib
on behalf of the European Commission
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The Commission is committed to ensuring that Palestinians, including those with disabilities, receive the humanitarian assistance they need. The Commission works closely with trusted humanitarian partners to ensure that aid reaches those most in need, including persons with disabilities. Commission experts monitor the situation and engage with partners, such as Palestinian civil society organisations, to assess needs. In 2024, the Commission notably funded the organisation Humanity & Inclusion to ensure that children have access to safe and quality inclusive education and to provide assistive technologies, rehabilitation services and medical assistance to children with disabilities.

Since the beginning of the crisis, the Commission has allocated some EUR 450 million to support the humanitarian response, providing persons with disabilities inclusive and accessible assistance. When it comes to return and reconstruction, humanitarian actors stand ready to assist people with emergency and early recovery assistance and to ensure the specific needs of persons with disabilities are duly taken into account. In order to support the ceasefire in Gaza, the EU's civilian Border Assistance Mission for the Rafah Crossing Point (EUBAM Rafah) continues to be operational, allowing for the movement of individuals out of Gaza, including some who require medical treatment.

The Commission also uses its convening power to sensitise other donors to important issues such as disability inclusion. The Commission exchanges closely with Organisations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs) at global level and encourages partners to pursue dialogues with local OPDs, in line with the Commission's localisation guidance.