

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001934/25
to the Commission
Lynn Boylan (The Left)
(14 May 2025)**

Subject: European Accessibility Act and the built environment

When the European Accessibility Act ⁽¹⁾ enters into force in June 2025, the accessibility of the built environment will be outside its scope. Given the lack of harmonisation across the Member States in the design and implementation of the public environment, does the Commission plan to regulate for accessibility in the built environment, so that people with disabilities can fully access the outdoor public environment consistently, within and across the Member States?

Submitted: 14.5.2025

**Answer given by Ms Lahbib on behalf of the European Commission
(11 August 2025)**

The European Accessibility Act (Directive (EU) 2019/882) includes the built environment in its scope. Article 4.4 provides that *‘Member States may decide, in the light of national conditions, that the built environment used by clients of services covered by this directive shall comply with the accessibility requirements set out in Annex III, in order to maximise their use by persons with disabilities.’* The directive, including, for Member States that decided to ‘opt in’ on Article 4.4., its provision related to the built environment, is applicable since 28 June 2025.

Furthermore, the directive indicates in Article 33, that by 28 June 2030, and every five years thereafter, the Commission shall submit a report on the application of the directive, including in relation to the relevant provisions concerning the built environment.

The Commission, in accordance with Article 15 of the directive, has also issued a standardisation request M587 ⁽¹⁾ requiring the development of standards. The standardisation request includes the revision for their adoption as harmonised standard of *‘EN 17210 Accessibility and usability of the built environment — Functional requirements’*.

¹ Directive (EU) 2019/882 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 April 2019 on the accessibility requirements for products and services, OJ L 151, 7.6.2019, p. 70, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2019/882/oj>.

⁽¹⁾ https://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/enorm/mandate/587_en.