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E-003625/2025

Answer given by Ms Lahbib

on behalf of the European Commission

(24.11.2025)

In the follow-up of 17 January 2024¹ to the Parliament Resolution referred to by the Honourable Member², the Commission highlighted ongoing action in the numerous areas covered. Further progress achieved includes the adoption of the European Disability Card³ and full implementation of the Disability Employment Package⁴, including through EU funding⁵. Under the current mandate of the Commission, autism is being given further prominence in relation to health⁶. The Biotech Act⁷ and the European Health Data Space will support earlier diagnosis through advanced biomarkers, digital tools and development of therapy plans. The European Reference Network ITHACA (Intellectual disability, TeleHealth, Autism and Congenital Anomalies)⁸ continues to work on diagnosis of developmental anomalies and coordination of multidisciplinary care and treatment.

In full respect of Member States' competences in the area of education⁹, the Commission promotes inclusive education through initiatives such as Pathways to School Success¹⁰, aiming to achieve better educational outcomes for all. Measures include support to learners with disabilities, including autism and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. This encompasses accessible environments and learning materials, use of diversified teaching approaches and training of teachers and professionals. Together with Member States, mutual learning is fostered through the European Education Area Working Groups¹¹.

EU Cohesion Policy Funds can support accessible infrastructure and teaching methods/technologies for diverse learners. Erasmus+ supports cooperation among stakeholders for developing capacities and innovative teaching materials enhancing inclusion.

¹ https://data.europarl.europa.eu/distribution/doc/SP-2023-600-TA-9-2023-0343_en.docx.

² https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/TA-9-2023-0343_EN.html.

³ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/10/14/european-disability-card-and-european-parking-card-for-persons-with-disabilities-council-adopts-new-directives/>.

⁴ https://employment-social-affairs.ec.europa.eu/policies-and-activities/eu-employment-policies/disability-employment-package_en.

⁵ <https://www.socialinnovationplus.eu/new-call-for-proposals-implementing-the-disability-employment-package/#:~:text=The%20European%20Competence%20Centre%20for%20Social%20Innovation%20has,under%20the%20ESF%2B%20Social%20Innovation%20Plus%20Initiative%20%28SI%2B%29>.

⁶ https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/b1817a1b-e62e-4949-bbb8-ebf29b54c8bd_en?filename=Mission%20letter%20-%20VARHELYI.pdf.

⁷ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:52024DC0137>.

⁸ https://health.ec.europa.eu/document/download/4033c394-3163-498a-b325-d54193e32487_en?filename=ernithaca_factsheet_en.pdf.

⁹ Article 165 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union; <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX%3A12012E/TXT>.

¹⁰ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A32022H1209%2801%29>.

¹¹ <https://wikis.ec.europa.eu/spaces/EAC/pages/55903445/Equality+and+Values+Documents> and <https://wikis.ec.europa.eu/spaces/EAC/pages/44165724/Pathways+to+School+Success>.