

EN

E-001203/2026

Answer given by Ms Lahbib
on behalf of the European Commission
(3.6.2026)

Directive (EU) 2019/882 (European Accessibility Act) (EAA)¹ sets mandatory accessibility requirements for certain products and services, including certain elements of transport services, and optional accessibility requirements for the built environment², for which Member States can opt-in³. The Act applies since 28 June 2025, and the Commission monitors its implementation across the EU.

In 2022, the Commission issued a standardisation request⁴ to revise and develop standards including for Information and Communications Technology (ICT) and on the built environment⁵, which should support the implementation of accessibility requirements of the EAA. Moreover, the Commission launched the European resource centre AccessibleEU⁶, designed, *inter alia*, to support the implementation of EU accessibility legislation.

Moreover, Article 9(3) of the Common Provisions Regulation⁷ states that accessibility for persons with disabilities shall be taken into account throughout the preparation and implementation of programmes in the different funds to which this Regulation applies.

As regards public transport, the EU type-approval rules⁸ for city buses require accessibility of passengers with reduced mobility, including at least one wheelchair user. All buses and coaches designed for easy access for passengers with reduced mobility and wheelchair users must comply with requirements on accommodation for such passengers, as regards, e.g., steps, communication devices, handrails, floor slopes etc.

EU passenger rights legislation requires to assist persons with reduced mobility and persons with disabilities, allowing them to request advance notification for operators to organise staff or equipment required for using their service.

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, PP.70-115, ELI:<http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2019/882/oj>).

² Annex III to Directive (EU) 2019/82.

³ Ireland has not opted into the accessibility requirements for the built environment.

⁴ C(2022) 6456 – Standardisation request M/587, https://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/enorm/mandate/587_en.

⁵ EN 17210:2021, Accessibility in the built environment, https://accessible-eu-centre.ec.europa.eu/content-corner/digital-library/en-172102021-accessibility-and-usability-built-environment-functional-requirements_en.

⁶ https://accessible-eu-centre.ec.europa.eu/index_en.

⁷ Regulation (EU) 2021/1060 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 June 2021 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund Plus, the Cohesion Fund, the Just Transition Fund and the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund and financial rules for those and for the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, the Internal Security Fund and the Instrument for Financial Support for Border Management and Visa Policy (OJ L 231, 30.6.2021, pp. 159–706) <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/1060/oj/eng>.

⁸ Regulation (EU) 2018/858 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2018 on the approval and market surveillance of motor vehicles and their trailers, and of systems, components and separate technical units intended for such vehicles, amending Regulations (EC) No 715/2007 and (EC) No 595/2009 and repealing Directive 2007/46/EC (OJ L 151, 14.6.2018, pp. 1–218) <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2018/858/oj/eng>.