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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Mînzatu
on behalf of the European Commission
(12.6.2026)

The Commission monitors compliance with conditionalities¹ within the Cohesion Policy programmes monitoring committees². The implementation of educational programmes co-financed by the European Social Fund Plus³, including those supporting pupils with disabilities in Greece, are also monitored through regular reporting mechanisms, audits and meetings with national authorities. Issues like delays in programme execution, staff shortages or needs for personalised support are assessed to ensure that the rights of people with disabilities are promoted and protected, while considering Member States' shared management responsibilities for effective and inclusive programme delivery. The Commission recalls that under shared management the national authorities are responsible for ensuring compliance with applicable EU law, including with fundamental rights enshrined in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union⁴ throughout the implementation of EU-funded projects.

The enhanced Strategy for the rights of persons with disabilities up to 2030⁵ further promotes independent living and accessible educational environments for the full inclusion of persons with disabilities in line with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to which the EU and all Member States are parties⁶.

In line with the division of competences in the area of education set out in Article 165 of Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union⁷, the Commission promotes inclusive education under the European Education Area by fostering mutual learning opportunities, providing policy guidance to Member States, supporting progress towards EU-level targets, and offering funding via Erasmus+ and Cohesion policy funds, with the aim of advancing inclusive practices.

¹ Accessibility is also a horizontal principle in the design and implementation of Cohesion policy funds support.

² The Commission monitors closely the programmes' implementation in line with the EU regulation and programme priorities.

³ <https://european-social-fund-plus.ec.europa.eu/en>; <https://european-social-fund-plus.ec.europa.eu/en/support-your-country/esf-greece>.

⁴ <https://fra.europa.eu/en/eu-charter>.

⁵ Enhancing the Strategy for the rights of persons with disabilities up to 2030

https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/policies/justice-and-fundamental-rights/disability/enhancing-strategy-rights-persons-disabilities-2030_en.

⁶ https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/policies/justice-and-fundamental-rights/disability/united-nations-convention-rights-persons-disabilities-uncrpd_en.

⁷ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX%3A12012E/TXT>.