

EN

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Answer given by Ms Lahbib

on behalf of the European Commission

(16.7.2026)

The Gender Equality Strategy 2026-2030¹ sets out measures to advance gender equality for women and men in all their diversity, including women with disabilities. In implementing the Strategy, specific barriers faced by women and girls with disabilities will be addressed. Directive (EU) 2024/1385 on combating violence against women and domestic violence² ensures that victims of forms of violence against women criminalised under EU or national law can benefit from the support services and redress mechanisms provided for in the Directive. This also includes victims of forced sterilisation where such conduct is criminalised under national law.

In the enhanced strategy for the rights of persons with disabilities³, the Commission commits to issuing guidance on the employment of women with disabilities and assessing the provision of reasonable accommodation at the workplace⁴. Ways to improve quality and accessibility of women's physical and mental healthcare will be further explored with the World Health Organization⁵. This builds on recent initiatives, such as the EU4Health Programme project on improving access to care for people with disabilities⁶. The Commission will launch a study on violence against women with disabilities and will facilitate the development of guidelines on procedural accommodation for victims with disabilities.

To improve the disaggregation of data on all grounds of discrimination, the Commission is preparing a Recommendation on equality data to help Member States and other stakeholders to monitor the state of equality in the EU.

¹ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:52026DC0113>.

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2024/1385/oj/eng>.

³ 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.

⁴ In line with the Employment Equality Directive (Directive 2000/78/EC), <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2000/78/oj/eng>.

⁵ Including for those with disabilities.

⁶ <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/0f191113-d63f-11f0-8da2-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>.