

Basic information	
2023/0311(COD)	Procedure completed
COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Directive	
Establishing the European Disability Card and the European Parking Card for persons with disabilities	
Subject	
4.10.06 People with disabilities	
Legislative priorities	
Joint Declaration 2023-24	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	EMPL Employment and Social Affairs	ĎURIŠ NICHOLSONOVÁ Lucia (Renew)	04/10/2023
		Shadow rapporteur CASA David (EPP) ALBUQUERQUE João (S&D) LANGENSIEPEN Katrin (Greens/EFA) RAFALSKA Elżbieta (ECR) LIZZI Elena (ID) GUSMÃO José (The Left)	
European Parliament	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	IMCO Internal Market and Consumer Protection	Chair on behalf of committee CAVAZZINI Anna (Greens/EFA)	25/10/2023
	TRAN Transport and Tourism (Associated committee)	BERGKVIST Erik (S&D)	19/10/2023
	FEMM Women's Rights and Gender Equality	ESTARÀS FERRAGUT Rosa (EPP)	10/10/2023
	PETI Petitions	Chair on behalf of committee MONTSERRAT Dolors (EPP)	24/10/2023

Council of the European Union		
European Commission	Commission DG	Commissioner
	Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion	DALLI Helena
European Economic and Social Committee		
European Committee of the Regions		

Key events			
Date	Event	Reference	Summary
06/09/2023	Legislative proposal published	COM(2023)0512 	
19/10/2023	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
19/10/2023	Referral to associated committees announced in Parliament		
11/01/2024	Vote in committee, 1st reading		
11/01/2024	Committee decision to open interinstitutional negotiations with report adopted in committee		
12/01/2024	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	A9-0003/2024	Summary
15/01/2024	Committee decision to enter into interinstitutional negotiations announced in plenary (Rule 71)		
17/01/2024	Committee decision to enter into interinstitutional negotiations confirmed by plenary (Rule 71)		
19/03/2024	Approval in committee of the text agreed at 1st reading interinstitutional negotiations	PE759.638 GEDA/A/(2024)001069	
23/04/2024	Debate in Parliament		
24/04/2024	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading	T9-0339/2024	Summary
24/04/2024	Results of vote in Parliament		
14/10/2024	Act adopted by Council after Parliament's 1st reading		
23/10/2024	Final act signed		
14/11/2024	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2023/0311(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Directive
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 57_o

	Treaty on the Functioning of the EU TFEU 053-p1 Treaty on the Functioning of the EU TFEU 021-p2
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165
Mandatory consultation of other institutions	European Economic and Social Committee European Committee of the Regions
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	EMPL/9/13174

Documentation gateway				
European Parliament				
Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE754.831	30/10/2023	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE756.072	09/11/2023	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE756.042	23/11/2023	
Specific opinion	PETI	PE755.985	29/11/2023	
Committee opinion	FEMM	PE754.897	04/12/2023	
Specific opinion	IMCO	PE755.013	05/12/2023	
Committee opinion	TRAN	PE755.987	07/12/2023	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A9-0003/2024	12/01/2024	Summary
Text agreed during interinstitutional negotiations		PE759.638	16/02/2024	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T9-0339/2024	24/04/2024	Summary
Council of the EU				
Document type	Reference		Date	Summary
Coreper letter confirming interinstitutional agreement	GEDA/A/(2024)001069		16/02/2024	
Draft final act	00049/2024/LEX		23/10/2024	
European Commission				
Document type	Reference		Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(2023)0512 		06/09/2023	
Document attached to the procedure	SEC(2023)0305		07/09/2023	
Document attached to the procedure	SWD(2023)0289 		07/09/2023	
Document attached to the procedure	SWD(2023)0290 		07/09/2023	
Document attached to the procedure	SWD(2023)0291 		07/09/2023	

Commission response to text adopted in plenary	SP(2024)394	08/08/2024	
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National parliaments

Document type	Parliament /Chamber	Reference	Date	Summary
Contribution	DK_PARLIAMENT	COM(2023)0512	08/11/2023	
Contribution	DE_BUNDESRAT	COM(2023)0512	09/11/2023	
Contribution	PT_PARLIAMENT	COM(2023)0512	20/12/2023	

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
EESC	Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES4861/2023	13/12/2023	
CofR	Committee of the Regions: opinion	CDR4646/2023	31/01/2024	

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
EP Research Service	Briefing	01/02/2024

Meetings with interest representatives published in line with the Rules of Procedure

Rapporteurs, Shadow Rapporteurs and Committee Chairs

Transparency				
Name	Role	Committee	Date	Interest representatives
LANGENSIEPEN Katrin	Shadow rapporteur	EMPL	06/02/2024	Deutsche Bahn AG
LANGENSIEPEN Katrin	Shadow rapporteur	EMPL	14/12/2023	Deutscher Gewerkschaftsbund
LANGENSIEPEN Katrin	Shadow rapporteur	EMPL	01/11/2023	Deutsche Bahn AG
DANTI Nicola	Shadow rapporteur for opinion	TRAN	30/10/2023	European Disability Forum
ALBUQUERQUE João	Shadow rapporteur	EMPL	26/10/2023	EUROPEAN TRADE UNION CONFEDERATION
LANGENSIEPEN Katrin	Shadow rapporteur	EMPL	26/10/2023	Deutscher Caritasverband e. V. Sozialverband Deutschland BAG Selbsthilfe Sozialverband vdk Deutschland e.V., BKS - Verband Körperbehinderter Menschen Bundesverband für Körper- und Mehrfachbehinderte Menschen e.V. (bvm) BVDS e.V., des Bundesverband Down-Syndrom e.V. DBSV e.V. Deutsche Rheuma-Liga

				Interessenvertretung Selbstbestimmt Leben in Deutschland - ISL e.V.
ALBUQUERQUE João	Shadow rapporteur	EMPL	25/10/2023	European Disability Forum
LANGENSIEPEN Katrin	Shadow rapporteur	EMPL	25/10/2023	Europa-Union Deutschland e. V.
ĎURIŠ NICHOLSONOVÁ Lucia	Rapporteur	EMPL	11/10/2023	European Disability Forum
LANGENSIEPEN Katrin	Shadow rapporteur	EMPL	11/10/2023	Inclusion Europe
LANGENSIEPEN Katrin	Shadow rapporteur	EMPL	29/09/2023	Sozialministerium Österreich
LANGENSIEPEN Katrin	Shadow rapporteur	EMPL	18/09/2023	European Disability Forum
LANGENSIEPEN Katrin	Shadow rapporteur	EMPL	14/09/2023	Verena Bentele, VDK e.V.

Other Members

Transparency		
Name	Date	Interest representatives
HOMS GINEL Alicia	29/11/2023	ATREVIA COMUNICACIÓN Grupo Social ONCE
CAÑAS Jordi	07/11/2023	COMITÉ ESPAÑOL DE REPRESENTANTES DE PERSONAS CON DISCAPACIDAD
KÓSA Ádám	07/11/2023	European Union of the Deaf
CAÑAS Jordi	06/11/2023	ORGANIZACION NACIONAL DE CIEGOS DE ESPAÑA
KÓSA Ádám	06/11/2023	Értelmi Fogyatékossággal Elők és Segítők Országos Érdekvédelmi Szövetsége (ÉFOÉSZ)
KÓSA Ádám	06/11/2023	Siketek és Nagyothallók Országos Szövetsége (SINOSZ)
KÓSA Ádám	05/11/2023	Magyar Vakok és Gyengénlátók Országos Szövetsége (MVGYOSZ)
KÓSA Ádám	02/11/2023	Pszichiatriai Érdekvédelmi Fórum (PÉF)
FRANSSEN Cindy	11/10/2023	EDC Fanclub
SEMEDO Monica	09/10/2023	ALAN asbl-Maladies Rares Luxembourg
FRANSSEN Cindy	04/10/2023	European Commission
HOMS GINEL Alicia	04/10/2023	Cabinet of Commissioner Dalli

Final act
Directive 2024/2841 OJ OJ L 14.11.2024

Summary

Establishing the European Disability Card and the European Parking Card for persons with disabilities

2023/0311(COD) - 12/01/2024 - Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading

The Committee on Employment and Social Affairs adopted the report by Lucia ĎURIŠ NICHOLSONOVÁ (Renew, SK) on the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the European Disability Card and the European Parking Card for persons with disabilities.

The committee responsible recommended that the European Parliament's position adopted at first reading under the ordinary legislative procedure should amend the proposal as follows:

Subject matter

Members considered that this Directive should lay down the rules governing the issuance of the European Parking Card for persons with disabilities as proof of their disability status, in view of promoting equal rights and freedom of movement for persons with disabilities and facilitating short stays of persons with disabilities in a Member State other than that of which they are a resident, by granting them access to any special conditions or preferential treatment with respect to services, activities or facilities, including when provided not for remuneration, offered to or reserved for persons with disabilities residing in that Member State and, where applicable, persons accompanying or assisting them including their personal assistants.

Scope

By way of derogation, this Directive should apply to the **benefits and social assistance**:

- where European Disability Card holders move to another Member State to engage in work or enrol in an educational institution until their disability status is re-assessed and formally recognised by the competent authorities in the other Member State; and
- where a European Disability Card holder participates in an EU mobility programme, for the duration of that programme.

Holders of a European Disability Card, while in these situations, should be granted access to the benefits and social assistance by the Member State that issued the European Disability card.

A European Disability Card should not be required as **proof of disability** in order to access or exercise any of the rights.

Format, mutual recognition, issue

Each Member State should introduce the European Disability Card following the common standardised format and universal accessibility requirements set out in Annex I.

European Disability Cards issued by Member States should be mutually recognised in all Member States and shall be compatible with any certificate, disability card or any other formal document for persons with disabilities issued at national, regional or local level.

Persons with disabilities, or designated representatives acting on their behalf and with their or their legal guardian's approval, should be able to **appeal** against a decision by the competent authorities regarding the issuance, renewal or withdrawal of a European Disability Card in accordance with national law and practice.

By 12 months from the date of entry into force of this Directive, the Commission should adopt delegated acts supplementing this Directive by setting the **digital format** of the European Disability Card and ensure interoperability.

The European Parking Card for persons with disabilities should be issued or renewed by the Member State of residence free of charge to the beneficiary and within a reasonable period from the date of the application which should **not exceed 30 days**. A digital version should be available within 15 days of an application.

Changing residence

The holders of European Disability Cards or European Parking Cards for persons with disabilities who have changed their Member State of residence, and who await issuance of a national disability card, certificate or any other formal document recognising their disability status by the competent authorities in that Member State, are guaranteed the rights provided for in this Directive during that period.

Monitoring and conformity

Regarding provisions on avoiding risks of fraud or forgery, Members considered that it is important that any measures taken to achieve this aim do not interfere with the rights and interests of persons with disabilities using the card correctly or lead in any way to stigmatisation.

Accessibility of information and awareness raising

Measures concerning availability and accessibility of information, as well as awareness raising measures, have also been strengthened and include an **EU awareness raising campaign** to be undertaken by the Commission, a **dedicated EU website** to gather information on the conditions and rules, practices, and procedures to issue, renew or withdraw as well as how to obtain, use and renew the cards in the different Member States. The website should be in the official languages of the Member States, national and international sign languages for audio and video content, in accessible and easy-to-read formats.

Member States should also be obliged to establish **national websites** outlining the relevant special conditions and preferential treatment offered by public authorities so that persons with disabilities, service providers and the public in general are informed of the advantages the cards entail.

Lastly, amendments were tabled to strengthen the enforcement of the directive and ensure the **right to redress** including through adequate compensation as well as to better involve the representative organisations of persons with disabilities in the implementation and evaluation of the cards.

Establishing the European Disability Card and the European Parking Card for persons with disabilities

2023/0311(COD) - 24/04/2024 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 613 votes to 7, with 11 abstentions, a legislative resolution on the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the European Disability Card and the European Parking Card for persons with disabilities.

The European Parliament's position adopted at first reading under the ordinary legislative procedure amends the proposal as follows:

Subject matter and scope

The proposed Directive lays down:

- the rules governing the issuance of the **European Disability Card** to persons with disabilities as proof of a disability status or proof of entitlement to specific services based on a disability;
- the rules governing the issuance of the **European Parking Card** for persons with disabilities as proof of the right to parking conditions and facilities reserved for persons with disabilities, with the aim of promoting freedom of movement for persons with disabilities and facilitating short stays of persons with disabilities in a Member State other than that in which they are a resident, by granting them equal access to any parking conditions and facilities offered to or reserved for persons with disabilities in that Member State and, where applicable, persons accompanying or assisting them including their personal assistants;
- common templates for the European Disability Card and the European Parking Card for persons with disabilities.

Equal access for disabled people to special conditions or preferential treatment

Both cards should grant card holders, as well as those accompanying them and assistance animals, access to most of the **same conditions** as national card holders. The new rules should only apply for **short stays**, with an exception for disability card holders that move to another member state for a mobility programme, such as Erasmus+.

European disability card

Each Member State should introduce the physical version of the European disability card and the European parking card for persons with disabilities in accordance with the common standardised and accessible format set out in Annexes I and II. Member States may decide to complement the physical version of the card by a **digital version**. In Member States where the physical version of the card is complemented by a digital version, persons with disabilities may request the card in the physical version, and if they so wish, in both the physical and the digital versions. Member States should integrate into the physical version of the cards a QR code and other digital functionalities using electronic means to prevent and combat fraud.

The European disability card should be issued or renewed by the Member State of residence, directly or at the request of the disabled person or an authorised person, in accordance with national law. Disabled people should be informed of the possibility of applying for the European disability card, when it is not issued directly. The card should be issued or renewed free of charge to the beneficiary, within the same time limit as that applicable for the issue of disability certificates, disability cards or other official documents or for official procedures recognising the status of disabled person.

The European Parking Card for persons with disabilities should be issued or renewed within a reasonable period from the date of the application which should not exceed 90 days, unless required assessments are ongoing.

The issuance and renewal of the European Disability Card should be free of charge, while the reissuance of that card, in the event of loss or damage, may be subject to a fee. The **issuance and renewal** of the European Parking Card for persons with disabilities should be either free of charge or subject to a fee.

Where such a fee is charged, Member States should ensure that the fee does not exceed the administrative costs concerned or discourage persons with disabilities from requesting the reissuance of the European Disability Card.

The personal data contained in that digital version should be **encrypted** and technical precautions should be put in place to ensure that the storage medium is read only by authorised users.

The **validity** of the European Disability Card should be determined by the issuing Member State. Member States should ensure that the European Disability Card has the longest possible validity taking into account.

Surveillance and compliance

In the event that a Member State encounters serious or systematic cases of abuse on its territory of the European Disability Card or European Parking Card for persons with disabilities issued by another Member State, that Member State should inform thereof the issuing Member State. Member States should exchange information with regard to abuse of those cards.

Accessibility of information and awareness raising

Member States should :

- make the conditions, rules, practice and procedures for issuing, renewing and withdrawing a European Disability Card and a European Parking Card for persons with disabilities **publicly available in accessible formats**, including in digital and easy-to-read formats ;
- take appropriate measures to **raise awareness** among the public and inform persons with disabilities and their representative organisations, including in accessible ways, about the existence and conditions for obtaining, using or renewing the European Disability Card and the European Parking Card for persons with disabilities. The Commission should undertake a European awareness-raising campaign in cooperation with the Member States;
- take measures to **raise awareness among public authorities** and private operators about the existence and the use of the European Disability Card and the European Parking Card for persons with disabilities;
- designate one or more **competent authorities** or bodies responsible for the issuance, renewal and withdrawal of the European Disability Card and the European Parking Card for persons with disabilities;
- ensure the active consultation and involvement of representative **organisations** of persons with disabilities in the development, implementation and evaluation of the European Disability Card and the European Parking Card for persons with disabilities.

Establishing the European Disability Card and the European Parking Card for persons with disabilities

2023/0311(COD) - 14/11/2024 - Final act

PURPOSE: to strengthen the exercise of the free movement rights of persons with disabilities, and enhance the possibilities for persons with disabilities to travel to or visit another Member State, and thereby fight against discrimination against them.

LEGISLATIVE ACT: Directive (EU) 2024/2841 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the European Disability Card and the European Parking Card for persons with disabilities.

CONTENT: the directive lays down:

- the rules governing the issuance of the **European Disability Card** to persons with disabilities as proof of a disability status or proof of entitlement to specific services based on a disability;
- the rules governing the issuance of the **European Parking Card** for persons with disabilities as proof of the right to parking conditions and facilities reserved for persons with disabilities;
- **common templates** for the European Disability Card and the European Parking Card for persons with disabilities.

The directive aims to ensure **equal access** to special conditions or preferential treatment for persons with disabilities and person(s) accompanying or assisting them, during short stays throughout the EU. Examples include reduced or zero entry fees, priority access, assistance, and reserved parking spaces.

Each Member State will introduce the physical version of the European Disability Card and the European Parking Card following the **common standardised and accessible format** set out in Annex I and II. Member States will include in the physical version of the card a QR code and any other digital features that use electronic means to prevent and combat fraud.

The European Disability Card will be issued or renewed by the Member State of residence directly or upon application by the person with disabilities or by an authorised person, under national law. Member States may decide to charge a fee for the costs relating to the reissuance of the European Disability Card in the event of loss or damage. Member States may issue and renew the European Parking Card for persons with disabilities free of charge or charge a fee for the costs relating to its issuance and renewal.

The cards will be **recognised throughout the EU** as proof of disability or entitlement to specific services based on a disability. The European parking cards for persons with disabilities will be produced in physical format, with Member States having the option to also issue them in digital format.

Persons with disabilities will have the possibility to request either **the physical or the digital version of the European Disability Card or both**. In Member States where the physical version of the card is complemented by a digital version, persons with disabilities may request the card in the physical version, and if they so wish, in both the physical and the digital versions.

The **validity** of the European Disability Card will be determined by the issuing Member State. Member States will ensure that the European Disability Card has the longest possible validity taking into account.

Member States will:

- make the conditions, rules, practice and procedures for issuing, renewing and withdrawing a European Disability Card and a European Parking Card for persons with disabilities **publicly available** in accessible formats, including in digital and easy-to-read formats;
- take appropriate measures to **raise awareness** among the public and inform persons with disabilities and their representative organisations, including in accessible ways, about the existence and conditions for obtaining, using or renewing the European Disability Card and the European Parking Card for persons with disabilities. The Commission will undertake a European awareness-raising campaign in cooperation with the Member States.

Each Member State will establish a **national website** containing general information regarding the objective and the use of the European Disability Card and the European Parking Card for persons with disabilities.

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 4.12.2024.

TRANSPOSITION: from 5.6.2027.

APPLICATION: from 5.6.2028.