Basic information

2023/2728(RSP) RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects	Procedure completed
Resolution on harmonising the rights of autistic persons **Subject** 4.20.01 Medicine, diseases	

Key players

European Parliament	**Committee responsible**	**Rapporteur**	**Appointed**
	PETI Petitions	MONTSERRAT Dolors (EPP)	02/06/2023
		Shadow rapporteur EVREN Agnès (EPP) AGIUS SALIBA Alex (S&D) CAÑAS Jordi (Renew) ALAMETSÄ Alviina (Greens /EFA) CZARNECKI Ryszard (ECR) PELLETIER Anne-Sophie (The Left)	
European Commission	**Commission DG**	**Commissioner**	
	Justice and Consumers	DALLI Helena	

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
04/10/2023	Decision by Parliament	T9-0343/2023	Summary
04/10/2023	Results of vote in Parliament		
04/10/2023	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2023/2728(RSP)
Procedure type	RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects

Procedure subtype	Resolution on statement
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 142-p5 Rules of Procedure EP 142-p1
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	PETI/9/12151

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Motion for a resolution		B9-0390/2023	26/09/2023	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T9-0343/2023	04/10/2023	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Commission response to text adopted in plenary	SP(2023)600	17/01/2024	

Resolution on harmonising the rights of autistic persons

2023/2728(RSP) - 04/10/2023 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted a resolution on harmonising the rights of autistic persons.

There are approximately 100 million persons with disabilities in the EU, among whom 5 million are on the autism spectrum, representing more than 1 in 100 persons. Autistic persons do not all have the same specific characteristics and should therefore be able to benefit from the best possible support according to their own needs in their daily lives and when travelling within the EU.

While stressing the usefulness of the **European Disability Card** for persons with invisible disabilities, such as autism, Parliaments stressed that it is crucial for the scope of this card to include all situations where special conditions or preferential treatment are offered by private operators or public authorities to persons with disabilities, and for this card to ensure these persons' right to free movement across the EU, by facilitating the mutual recognition of disability status for card holders.

Moreover, the resolution called for the adoption of a **European legal status** for persons with disabilities, allowing for mutual recognition and accreditation in all Member States, taking into account the specificity of autism and ensuring the protection and inclusion of all autistic persons.

Member States are urged to:

- facilitate access to autism **diagnosis** for children and adults with a focus on at-risk individuals;

- develop access to reasonable accommodation in all facets of healthcare and diagnosis, with the aim of ensuring that autistic persons enjoy equal access to both physical and psychological healthcare. Members insisted on the development of infrastructures adapted to the reception of autistic persons in hospitals, train stations, airports and in public transport, creating **autism-friendly spaces such as 'silence rooms'**;

- foster the **training** of professionals on autism across all sectors of society, such as the education, health, social, transport and justice sectors, by embedding mandatory autism training in their respective curricula, with the active involvement of autistic persons, their families and representative organisations;

- reform **guardianship systems** to allow the exercise of legal capacity by autistic persons, giving them access to supported decision-making systems, while ensuring that adequate safeguards are in place;

- promote and ensure a legislative and policy framework for the participation of autistic persons in the labour market

- ensure that autistic persons are empowered and have full access to the justice system and to participate in political and public life.

Parliament called on the Commission and the Member States to:

- fund and implement autism prevalence studies across all Member States;

- help build understanding of autism and to actively engage in **awareness-raising campaigns**;

- adopt cross-sectoral national strategies to provide sufficient earmarked **funding** for their effective implementation.

Lastly, the resolution highlighted the importance of including a component in the allocation of EU funds dedicated to anti-discrimination policies against autistic persons, especially women and girls, who face particularly high levels of poverty, social exclusion and violence, and of making forced sterilisation punishable as a criminal offence on the basis of the crime of sexual exploitation of women and children.