



A Step Forward for Disability Rights:

The EU Disability Card Directive Approved

The European Federation of Hard of Hearing People welcomes the final approval of the EU Disability Card and Parking Card Directive by the EU Council, marking a significant advancement in the [EU Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030](#) as one of the main initiatives to achieve. The European Disability Card and the European Parking Card are set to be implemented by the end of 2028, enhancing the free movement of individuals with disabilities across the EU, including those who are hard of hearing.

The [EU Disability Card](#) aims to give persons with disabilities travelling in Europe equal access in the host country to special conditions or other preferential treatment, other than social security benefits and residence based social protection or social assistance. The [Parking Card](#) aims to improve access to parking spaces and facilities designed for persons with disabilities.

We note the acknowledgement in the text of the Directive that there are remaining gaps to ensuring the free movement of citizens with disabilities who move their residence to another EU country.

EFHOH President, Lidia Best said “We are pleased with achieving this important milestone; however, gaps remain. We call on the European Commission to address the existing matter of recognition of the disability status for people who are in transition between two countries.”

EFHOH will continue working closely with the European Disability Platform to ensure citizens with disabilities, including hard of hearing people, can fully benefit from the rights established under this new framework.

For more detailed information on the EU Disability Card, find it [here](#).

For the full text of the EU Disability Card Directive, click [here](#).

About EFHOH

The European Federation of Hard of Hearing People represents interest of 59 million of hard of hearing people in Europe. Our network consists of national organisations for hard of hearing and deafened people. Our vision is Europe where hard of hearing people can live without barriers and participate at all levels of society.