**Accessibility standards for polling stations**

Indicators on political participation

of persons with disabilities

2014

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**Are there legal accessibility standards for polling stations?**

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| **EUMS** | **Source and supporting information** |
| AT | In every municipality at least one barrier-free polling station must be set up according to §52 (5) National Assembly Election Order (*Nationalratswahlordnung*, NRWO) and §66 (1) NRWO. |
| BE | The Flemish Government adopted two Ministerial Decrees[[1]](#footnote-1) concerning the arrangement of voting booths and voting material. These Decrees replace the 1980 Decree and specify inter alia that:  -Level differences on a ground floor need to have an oblique plane of maximum 6% made out of slip material to guarantee easy access for everyone;  -In every building where people can vote, the municipal puts at least one special voting booth at the disposal of persons with disabilities. These voting booths are placed close to the voting rooms and need to have a chair near the voting booth.  The Minister President of Brussels, Charles Piqué sent out a circular[[2]](#footnote-2) to all municipalities concerning the accessibility of voting bureaus for disabled people. Recommendations are made for Persons with physical impairments; persons with sensory impairments and persons with visual impairments. These recommendations concern parking lot- measurements, entrance and accommodations in the voting bureaus as well as the voting cubicles and ballot boxes.[[3]](#footnote-3) |
| BG | For persons with disabilities related to the musculoskeletal system or the vision, when polling stations are situated on higher floors, the establishment of special polling stations (by decision of the regional or municipal electoral commissions) on the floor ground floor is provided (article 73 of the EC).  Moreover, these persons can choose in which station they cast their vote, even though they were not previously included in the electoral roll of the relevant section (Article 203, para 2 of the EC).  The polling stations in social, health care facilities and nursing homes should be formed if there are minimum 20 voters, and this concerns all persons placed in the facilities who meet the special requirements of the law (art. 72 , para . 6 and 7 of the EC).  There are no requirements for the percentage of available polling stations.  The Electoral Code provides no special voting rights for people with hearing impairments. |
| CY | In Cyprus, there are no laws which explicitly demand proactive steps to make polling stations or voting accessible. |
| CZ | The relevant acts in are Act No. 62/2003, Sec. 33, Sec.36 and Act No. 247/1995 Sec. 17, Sec. 19. Identical or similar provisions are included in all the laws concerning elections in the Czech republic. These specify the criteria election rooms must meet, including the requirement to have mobile ballot boxes and the details on the voting process carried out with the help of assistants for voters with physical or sensory disabilities. |
| DE | Depending on the local situation, polling stations should be selected in such a manner that all persons entitled to vote, in particular people with disabilities and other people with mobility impairments can cast their vote without problems (section 46, para. 1, third sentence of the BWO and section 39, para. 1, third sentence of the EuWO, respectively).  The Constituency Returning Officer informs the citizens well in advance on accessible polling stations, e.g. by an indication on the polling card. If necessary, each person entitled to vote may apply for a polling card which enables him or her to vote in another polling station of their constituency (in the event of national parliamentary elections) or of their Land (in the event of European elections) (section 17 para. 2 of the BWG, section 25 et seq., 59 of the BWO, section 4 of the EuWG in conjunction with section 17 para. 2 of the BWG, sections 24 et seq., 52 of the EuWO).  The Election Acts of the Federation and the federal states (*Länder),* moreover, contain a  number of provisions regulating participation by persons with disabilities in elections.  For instance:   * Polling stations are to be selected and equipped in such a way that the entire electorate, in particular persons with disabilities, is enabled to take part in the elections. * The electorate is informed which polling stations are barrier-free. * Voters who are unable to mark the voting slip or to fold or place it in the ballot box may avail themselves of the assistance of another person. * Blind voters or those with a visual handicap may use ballot templates to mark the ballot slip. * Special polling districts are formed for voting for hospitals, old people’s homes and long-term care homes, as well as for similar facilities with a larger number of voters. * Election organisations should provide a variety of information on the Internet in a barrier-free form.[[4]](#footnote-4) |
| DK | In relation to the recent parliamentary elections the examples of voting via letter, free transportation, special parking and special ballots for elderly and disabled citizens as well as other special measures were initiated at the municipal level.[[5]](#footnote-5) Relevant questions on disability and voting rights were raised by local disability councils. Denmark's disability policy is extensively implemented by the municipalities. For example, in 2007, it became compulsory for each municipality to establish a disability council (see below question nr. 20).  The Ministry for Health and Prevention (*Ministeriet for Sundhed of for Forebyggelse*) informs on the requirements for the ballots to be accessible for people with disabilities.  In November 2013, a Bill has been proposed making it possible for persons with disabilities to choose to vote at accessible voting premises if their local voting premises are not physically accessible.[[6]](#footnote-6) The Bill has not yet been adopted. |
| EE | Estonia is one of the few countries in the world where e-voting is carried out in local as well as national elections. The Estonian e-voting system was initiated in 2002, and in 2005 the system was used for the first time for local government council elections. Electronic voting is meant to supplement, not to replace, the traditional methods of voting. The idea is to give voters the possibility to vote from the location of their choice (home or office), without the necessity of going to the polling station.[[7]](#footnote-7) It is likely that electronic voting makes it easier for people with disabilities to take part in the elections. The "JAWS" screen reader system is available during the elections for persons with deficient eyesight. |
| EL | In Greece, there are no laws which explicitly demand proactive steps to make polling stations or voting accessible. |
| ES | The Royal Decree 605/1999 regarding the complementary regulation of the electoral processes states In its first article Which are the places to be used for electoral processes.In every electoral process, those places where the votes are to be cast must fulfill the necessary conditions to make that possible, therefore, those places must have adequate signs for electoral sections and polling stations, and, preferably be buildings of public ownership and, among these, buildings for educational, cultural or leisure purposes. These buildings must be accessible to persons with mobility limitations.  The Regulation on the basic conditions for the participation of persons with disabilities in political life and electoral processes (Royal Decree 422/2011) provides in its article 3.1 that “Access is guaranteed to the polling stations and the ballot boxes”.  At the same time, Article 8 establishes that:  “1. In all electoral processes within the competence of the general state administration, the locations where the voting process take place should meet the following conditions:  a) preferable be publicly owned, priority being given to educational, cultural, sports and recreational centres;  b) be accessible according to the provisions of this regulation; and  c) offer adequate indications of the voting sections and tables, in accordance with the technical requirements established by standard UNE 170002 «Accessibility requirements for signposting», or any standard that replaces it.  2. Polling stations should include a specific, accessible and adequate space guaranteeing the privacy of the voter which should find itself as close as possible to the table where he/she should vote.  3. The general state administration shall desdign and provide accessible systems with indications in each polling station referring to all sections and tables.”  Moreover, the Single Transitory Provision establishes that:  “1. The surroundings and new products and services related to the participation of persons with disabilities in political life and electoral processes should comply with the basic requirements of accessibility and non-discrimination established in the Regulation approved by the present Royal Decree as soon as it enters into force.  2. The surroundings, products and services that exist at the moment this Royal Decree enters into force, and every provision, criterion and practice related to the participation of persons with disabilities in political life and electoral processes should comply with the basic requirements in the decree when the next elections to Congress are held”.  According to the Guide on Accessibility and Electoral Processes of the Ministry of the Interior:[[8]](#footnote-8) “Voting locations must offer a specific, accessible and adequate space which guarantees the voter’s privacy and which finds itself as close as possible to the polling table where he must cast his vote”. At the same time “the members of the election committee will see to it that voters with disabilities can exercise their right to vote with the maximum autonomy possible, making the reasonable adjustments necessary for this purpose”. These adjustments correspond to the ones listed in Article 8 of the Royal Decree 422/2011.  Additionally, in terms of barriers or limitations, the Spanish Confederation of Families of Deaf Persons (Confederación Española de Familias de Personas Sordas, FIAPAS) has denounced that the regulation of the basic accessibility conditions in the case of elections does not refer to the provision of any means to support oral communication for deaf persons who use hearing prostheses and communicate orally. This prevents these persons from being in charge of a polling station in equality of conditions with other persons despite the need of this support having been officially recognised[[9]](#footnote-9). |
| FI | The Ministry of Justice issues for each election written instructions to the election authorities for the conduct of elections. The instructions include advice on various aspects of the election process including best practices in ensuring that the voting procedures, facilities and materials are appropriate, accessible and easy to use. The instructions include specific advice concerning persons with disabilities, e.g. on building slopes for wheelchairs, providing special booths with lower tables, purchasing of materials, parking lots for persons with disabilities, etc.  In addition, the Election Act (section 190) provides for transportation services for persons with disabilities who wish to vote at the polling station. The Election Act refers to the Law governing the organisation of services and supporting functions for the disabled (No.380 of 1987) which is applicable to the transportation services for the purpose of voting. |
| FR | In France, it is stipulated that polling stations and voting technologies must be accessible to all disabled people regardless of their impairment type.[[10]](#footnote-10) |
| HR | In Croatia, polling stations are required to be physically accessible as part of general legal requirements that public buildings and facilities be accessible. |
| HU | The Election Procedure Act, which entered into force on the 3d o May 2013, provides under Article 166 that in each of the voting districts of every settlement there must be at least one fully accessible polling station.  Furthermore, Article 88 d) provides that voters living with disabilities may request to vote at an accessible polling station, while Article 88 c) sets out that they may also request to use a voting aid with Braille writing. The information note delivered to voters will contain also information on the accessibility of the polling station (Article 115 (3) f)).  If a person requests to vote at an accessible polling station and the polling station where he/she should vote is not accessible, the voters’ list will be re-arranged in a way that he/she will be entitled to vote at an accessible polling station in the same voting district.  Article 181 (1) provides that if a voter is illiterate or lives with physical disabilities that constitute a burden in practicing voting rights, he/she may receive support form a person he/she has chosen, or from two members of the local ballot counting committee. |
| IE | Ireland’s Electoral Act 1992 (as amended by the Electoral (Amendment) Act 1996) contains specific provisions on the accessibility of polling stations (and places in which votes are counted) for wheelchair-users and on the use of aids to enable voters with visual impairments to vote independently. |
| IT | Accessibility measures regarding architectural barriers in voting places are contained in Law 15/1991[[11]](#footnote-11), Law 104/1992, Law 22/2006[[12]](#footnote-12), Law 46/2009, and Law 118/1971.  The national law on the exercise of the right to vote by people with disabilities[[13]](#footnote-13) stipulates that   * voters with limited mobility, registered at a polling station that is not accessible for them, can exercise their right to vote in an accessible polling station.[[14]](#footnote-14) To this aim, they must exhibit a document attesting their impossibility of movement or severely reduced mobility, or alternatively an authentic copy of their special driving license, together with the voter registration card, to the chairman of the chosen polling station. * furniture of the rooms where voting takes place should be arranged so to enable voters with limited mobility to read the posters containing the lists of candidates, to vote in absolute secrecy and to carry out the functions assigned to the members or representatives of an electoral list or to attend the activities of the electoral office. * municipalities are required to take record of the existing barriers in buildings that were used as voting stations in view of possible improvements.   Law 104/92 in Article 29[[15]](#footnote-15) stipulates that:   * municipalities, in which elections take place must organize public transport services to ensure that voters with disabilities can reach voting stations easily, * local health units must guarantee that an adequate number of authorised doctors is available to issue certificates needed for assistance of voters in the ballot required under Law 15/1991. |
| LT | On 14 April 2012, the amendment of Article 22(4) of the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Elections to the Seimas[[16]](#footnote-16) came into force, obligating the municipal institutions, responsible for adaptation of the premises of public use for special needs, to assess the adaptation and suitability of the voting places offered for elections according to the needs of voters with impaired mobility and/or vision and elderly voters.  The existing Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Elections and the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Referendum imposes the obligation to provide adequate premises for the organization and conduct of elections on the municipalities. Upon request of a municipality, public institutions and other organizations must provide electoral commissions with adequate premises and equipment for the preparation and conduct of elections. The maintenance of voting places and polling stations (electoral districts) of municipal and district electoral commissions, acquisition and storing of equipment items for the voting premises is financed from municipal budgets.  Prior to each elections or referendum, the Central Electoral Commission (CEC) takes a decision to approve the Procedure for Equipment of the Voting Premises. Since 2010, the Procedure, among other requirements specified in the laws on elections and referendum, also includes a provision by the CEC which requires that in order to ensure the access of voters with impaired mobility and/or vision and elderly voters to voting premises, these premises should be adapted to the voters’ needs. In case it is impossible to ensure that such voting rooms are situated in buildings which are adapted to the said voters’ needs, it is recommended to arrange for voting in buildings that have no built-in barriers for voters with impaired mobility and/or vision, and elderly voters. [[17]](#footnote-17) These requirements are optional for the municipalities.  According to the Procedure of Construction of Voting Premises approved for the last elections by the CEC[[18]](#footnote-18), the municipal or district electoral commissions no later than 45 days prior to elections must prepare and announce the information to voters concerning electoral districts, indicating the address of the polling station, explanation to the voter how to find and reach the polling station, indicating the means of transport communication (e.g. the nearest public transport stop) and/or important objects for navigation, the information for the voter must also indicate whether the voting place is adapted for voters with impaired mobility and/or vision and elderly voters or not.  The Central Election Commission is also concerned with making the information during election campaigns accessible to the person with sensory disabilities).[[19]](#footnote-19)  Although the above-mentioned laws provide for the obligation for public and municipal institutions to assist the electoral commissions in fulfilling their mandate, the legal acts provide no real mechanism for the enforcement of such a requirement. |
| LU | There is no legislation requiring that polling stations and voting processes be accessible to persons with disabilities.  However, according to Info-Handicap (the National Information and Meeting Centre Handicap)[[20]](#footnote-20) , 79 of 80 polling stations were accessible to all voters. These stations were equipped with ramps and railings as well as special booths with wheelchair access. For the station not equipped with ramps, alternative voting stations were recommended.  Additionally, shuttle buses (Wahlbus) were organised by the city of Luxembourg in order to allow everyone to participate in the October 2011 elections.[[21]](#footnote-21) People with restricted mobility and the elderly had access to this service, as did people, for instance, with broken legs and pregnant women. The bus service was free of charge. Similar services had been introduced during the 2009 national elections. |
| LV | In Latvia, there are no laws which explicitly demand proactive steps to make polling stations or voting accessible. |
| MT | Since the adoption of the Equal Opportunities Act (2000), voting stations are required to be physically accessible to all, including people with disability. Moreover, support staff at polling stations is obliged to offer people with disability assistance in getting to the appropriate venue and to cast their vote if required. The provision has particular benefitted people with physical disabilities. |
| NL | It is prescribed by law that at least 25% of municipalities’ voting stations be situated and set up in a way that ensures voters with physical disabilities to vote independently.[[22]](#footnote-22)  The Dutch Council of the Chronically Ill and the Disabled (*Chronisch zieken en Gehandicapten Raad Nederland,* CG-Raad) considers that everyone must be able to vote independently; it finds the 25% accessibility requirement imposed on the municipalities unacceptable.[[23]](#footnote-23)  Though persons with intellectual disabilities have the right to vote in the Netherlands, no help is provided while voting.  In case persons with physical disabilities need help, this can be provided by a staff member at the voting station or someone selected by themselves.[[24]](#footnote-24) When persons are incapable of signing an authorisation, a government official can visit them at home to register the authorisation.[[25]](#footnote-25) A special phone service was launched for visually impaired voters (*Kieslijsttelefoon*) which provides them with an audio version of the electoral list.[[26]](#footnote-26)  In October 2013 the Minister of the Interior and Kingdom Relations informed the House of Representatives about a new ballot paper which will enable visually impaired, blind and illiterate persons as well as persons who have problems understanding the Dutch language to vote on their own. A new ballot paper will be used during the upcoming European elections as an experiment.  At the time of writing of this report, the Dutch cabinet considers the procedures to conduct the voting process and the (re)introduction of electronic voting. In 2013 a research committee investigated the possibilities of electronic voting. In the report ‘Elke stem telt’ (Every vote counts), the committee states that according to the organizations that represent persons with (physical) disabilities, large groups of persons with disabilities are not able to participate in the voting process independently (there are no precise figures). Persons who are physically not able to vote by the ballot paper are allowed to call for help and ask someone else to vote for them. Because calling for help means that they have to give up their voting secret, some people do not vote at all. According to the organizations, electronic voting might improve the opportunities for persons with physical impairments. |
| PL | According to the new Electoral Code 2011 certain modifications have been introduced which privilege persons with disabilities or accommodate their needs in the election process. They include proxy and correspondence voting (see under 9).  In Article 186 § 1, the Electoral Code provides that one-third of all polling stations should be accommodated to the needs of people with disabilities. The provision does not establish any deadlines for its implementation. The Act introducing the Act-Electoral Code , however, specifies that by 31 December 2014, one-fifth of all polling stations in the territory of each commune should be accommodated to the needs of voters with disabilities.  Article 186 § 2 of the Electoral Code sets the mandate for a relevant minister to establish technical requirements for polling stations accommodated to the needs of people with disabilities. Such technical requirements were set forth by the Minister of Infrastructure in the Regulation of 29 July 2011 on polling stations accommodated to the needs of voters with disabilities. It came into force on 1 August 2011. This Regulation voided the previous Regulation of 31 July 2001 on polling stations accommodated to the needs of voters with disabilities issued by the Minister of Interior.  The current Regulation, even though it is not limited to particular types of disabilities, seems to be written with the view to persons with physical disabilities (e.g. on a wheelchair) and sight impairments, as the provisions address these kinds of disabilities.  The polling station has to be easily accessible – the entrance should be on the ground floor or it should be equipped with a ramp or other device easing access, and at least one door needs to be accommodated to the needs of persons with disabilities (e.g. proper width, low threshold). The polling station’s interior should be accommodated – the edges of stairs need to be marked with contrastive colours, the floors cannot be slippery, the path between the entrance and the place of voting should be as short as possible, all transparent barriers should be marked, and additional lighting should be provided in the voting spot. Persons with disabilities should be provided with at least one spot ensuring the secrecy of their vote. All notices and information posted at the polling station should be accessible for persons with disabilities (e.g. posted at a proper height). |
| PT | According to the Portuguese Electoral Commission (*Comissão Nacional de Eleições*, CNE)*,* in all the laws to do with elections and referenda, it is laid down that i) the polling booths have to be accessible pursuant to the electoral laws, it falls to the Mayor to decide where polling stations should be set up provided that they are in public buildings, preferentially schools, town halls or parish halls, and offer the indispensable spatial and safety conditions and are accessible. Whenever there is call for elections, the Electoral Commission recommends that all mayors recall the purpose of the legal rules and whenever necessary, adopt the required measures to ensure that the conditions meet accessibility criteria so that all voters, and particularly citizens with disabilities and citizens who have trouble in getting around, may at least use motorised means of dealing with architectural barriers); ii) there is a system of accompaniment when citizens with physical disabilities cast their votes (there is a special rule that states that it is possible for a voter to be accompanied if he/she has physical disabilities; companions may be another voter or someone the person with disabilities has chosen and who will faithfully uphold the procedures [filling in the ballot paper] and be sworn to secrecy. In cases where the illness or physical disability prevail, but this condition has not been noticed by the polling table, although the voter arrives accompanied, the table may require a signed and stamped doctor’s certificate testifying as to the impaired citizen’s incapacity to vote by him/herself. Local health centres or clinics issuing such certificates have to be open on Election Day for this purpose).[[27]](#footnote-27)  The Electoral Commission also receive information about all the citizens who ask for advice on this topic whenever there are elections. On voting day, the Commission may make his presence felt among the members of a polling station table when a complaint about casting an accompanied vote is made. |
| RO |  |
| SE | According to Chapter 3 Section 3 and Chapter 4 Section 20 of the Elections Act (*Vallagen*) [[28]](#footnote-28), every municipality shall ensure - - that there is one polling station for each electoral district,  - that premises are appropriate for polling stations and  - that, as regards location, accessibility and opening hours, these provide voters with good opportunities to vote. This applies to all polling stations in the municipalities.  Since 1 January 2014, the provision in Chapter 4 Section 20 which allowed municipalities to seek exemption from accessibility criteria has been removed. It stated that if a municipality considered that there were special reasons to use voting premises that do not satisfy the requirement of accessibility; the matter shall be reported to the county administrative board.  In the latest European Parliament elections 2009, four municipalities were reported to the Equality Ombudsman (*Diskrimineringsombudsmannen*) on the grounds that they had used voting premises with poor accessibility for people using wheelchairs. In all cases, the municipalities had ignored to request permission from the County administrative boards (*länsstyrelsen*) for use of these premises.  According to the Election Authority, the accessibility requirements on polling stations include the road from the car park or the public transport stops to the entrance of the polling station, the entrance hall, stairs, corridors etc. inside the building where the voter must pass through to the voting booth.[[29]](#footnote-29) |
| SI | The National Assembly Elections Act (*Zakon o volitvah v državni zbor, ZVDZ*) provides that at least one polling station in each electoral district must be accessible to persons with disabilities. Voters who wish to cast their votes at this polling station shall inform the district electoral commission of their intention to vote at least three days prior to Election Day. At this polling station, the electoral commission may facilitate voting by way of specifically adapted ballot papers and voting machines.[[30]](#footnote-30)  National Assembly Elections Act  Presidential elections in November and December 2012 were the last elections held in Slovenia. During these elections, there were a total 3,337 polling stations in Slovenia, of which 1,148 (34.4%) were officially designated as polling stations accessible to persons with disabilities, that is a polling station with no architectural barriers (e.g. stairs) that would prevent persons with physical disabilities from voting. All 3,337 polling stations in the country were equipped with stencils to assist persons with visual impairments. There were also 30 officially designated accessible polling stations with a voting machine to particularly assist persons with visual impairments and physical disability (persons with tetraplegia and muscular dystrophy).  .. In comparison, at the time of the early parliamentary elections in 2011, there were only 101 polling stations on the official list of polling stations accessible to persons with disabilities representing 2.93% of the total number of polling stations.  The National Electoral Commission (*Državna volilna komisija*, DVK) after the 2011 elections instructed, all District Electoral Commissions not to follow the minimum requirement specified by the law (i.e. one accessible polling station per electoral district area), but to formally determine as accessible all polling stations in a specific electoral area which have no built-environment barriers preventing persons with disabilities from voting[[31]](#footnote-31). |
| SK |  |
| UK | A new fact sheet entitled ‘Disabled People’s Voting Rights’ was issued by the UK Electoral Commission in April 2011 [[32]](#footnote-32).  It states that local authorities in the UK “now have to take proactive steps to ensure that polling stations do not disadvantage disabled people”. It also states that (i) “a person who is registered to vote or who has been officially appointed as a proxy voter cannot be refused a ballot paper or the opportunity to vote on the grounds of mental or physical incapacity” and (ii) “polling station staff must ensure that disabled voters are not offered a lower standard of service than other voters and should be able to explain what assistance is available to disabled voters wishing to vote in person at a polling station”. Disabled voters “may request the assistance of the Presiding Officer to mark the ballot paper for them” or “they can bring someone with them to help them vote (this person must be an immediate family member over 18 years old or a qualified elector)”. A tactile voting device “is fixed on to the ballot paper so visually impaired people or those with limited dexterity can mark their ballot paper in secret.”[[33]](#footnote-33) In addition, “a large-print version of the ballot paper should be clearly displayed inside the polling station and a copy can be given to voters to take with them into the polling booth;”[[34]](#footnote-34) although a voter cannot vote on the large-print version, “it can be used for reference.” Finally the fact sheet states that “in designating polling places, the council must have regard to accessibility for disabled voters” and that “if an elector is unable to enter the polling station because of physical disability, the Presiding Officer may take the ballot paper to the elector.” |

1. Belgium, Ministerial Decree concerning the determination of the arrangement of voting booths and of the voting materials for voting bureaus in municipals where is voted by pencil and paper (*Ministerieel besluit houdende de vaststelling van de inrichting van de stemlokalen en van het kiesmaterieel voor de stembureaus in de gemeenten waar met potlood en papier wordt gestemd),* 6 July 2012; Belgium, Ministerial Decree concerning the determination of the arrangement of voting booths and of the voting materials for voting bureaus in municipals where voting takes place with a digital voting system (*Ministerieel besluit houdende de vaststelling van de inrichting van de stemlokalen en van het kiesmaterieel voor de stembureaus in de gemeenten waar met een digitaal stemsysteem wordt gestemd)*, 6 July 2012. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Belgium, Brussels Capital Region, Circular concerning recommendations to facilitate the accessibility of voting bureaus for disabled people and to assist them (*Omzendbrief betreffende aanbevelingen om de toegang van personen met beperkte mobiliteit (PBM) tot de stembureaus te vergemakkelijken en om hun hiervoor de nodige bijstand te verlenen*), 6 August 2012, *Belgian Official Journal* 27 August 2012, p. 509756. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Cf. supra 9. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. <http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Disability/PoliticalParticipation/States/QuestionaireGermany.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. <http://www.fredensborg.dk/byraad+og+politik/oevrige+udvalg+og+raad+-+dagsorden+og+beslutninger/handicapraadet/2011/marts/handicapr%c3%a5det+1480/18+-+handicaptilg%c3%a6ngelighed+p%c3%a5+1480> (30.11.2011) [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Bill no. 68 of 13 November 2013 on amending the Act on election to Parliament, the Act on election of Danish members to the European Parliament and the Act on municipal and regional elections (*Forslag nr. 68 af 13. november 2013 til lov om ændring af lov om valg til Folketinget, lov om valg af danske medlemmer til Europa-Parlamentet og lov om kommunale og regionale valg*), available in Danish at: <http://www.ft.dk/samling/20131/lovforslag/L68/index.htm>. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. Estonia, National Electoral Committe (*Vabariigi Valimiskomisjon*) (2011). [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. Guide on Accessibility and Electoral Processes [*Guía sobre Accesibilidad y Procesos Electorales*], page 1: [www.oficinape.mspsi.gob.es/faq/guiadeaccesibilidad/pdf/GuiaSobreAccesibilidadYProcesosElectorales.pdf](http://www.oficinape.mspsi.gob.es/faq/guiadeaccesibilidad/pdf/GuiaSobreAccesibilidadYProcesosElectorales.pdf) (accessed on 20/06/2013). [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. See a reference to this complaint at: Ministerio de Sanidad, Servicios Sociales e Igualdad, Oficina Permanente Especializada (OPE) (s.d), *Informe anual 2012. Situación de igualdad de oportunidades, no discriminación y accesibilidad universal de las personas y discapacidad y sus familias*, available at: [www.oficinape.mspsi.es/informesOPE/ano2012/pdf/informeAnual2012.pdf](http://www.oficinape.mspsi.es/informesOPE/ano2012/pdf/informeAnual2012.pdf) [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. Article L 62-2 of the Electoral Code. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. Law 15/1991, (*Legge 15 gennaio 1991, n. 15, Norme intese a favorire la votazione degli elettori non deambulanti),* OJ 1991 no. 16. [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. Law 22/2006, Conversion and modification of the decree law n. 1 of January 2006, providing urgent provisions for domiciliary vote for some voters, for the digitalization of the counting of vote and for allowing the presence of OSCE observators in polling stations. (*Legge 27 gennaio 2006, n. 22 Conversione in legge, con modificazioni, del decreto-legge 3 gennaio 2006, n. 1, recante disposizioni urgenti per l'esercizio domiciliare del voto per taluni elettori, per la rilevazione informatizzata* *dello scrutinio e per l'ammissione ai seggi di osservatori OSCE, in occasione delle prossime elezioni politiche*). Available at: [www.parlamento.it/parlam/leggi/06022l.htm](http://www.parlamento.it/parlam/leggi/06022l.htm) [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. Law 15/1991, (*Legge 15 gennaio 1991, n. 15, Norme intese a favorire la votazione degli elettori non deambulanti),* OJ 1991 no. 16. [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. Law 15/1991, (Legge 15 gennaio 1991, n. 15, *Norme intese a favorire la votazione degli elettori non deambulanti*), OJ 1991 no. 16. [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
15. Law 104/92, Framework Law regulating the assistance, social integration and rights of persons with disabilities (*Legge 5 febbraio 1992 n. 104*, *Legge-quadro per l'assistenza, l'integrazione sociale e i diritti delle persone handicappate*), Art. 29, and Law 15/1991, (Legge 15 gennaio 1991, n. 15, Norme intese a favorire la votazione degli elettori non deambulanti), OJ 1991 no. 16. Both available at: <http://www.normattiva.it> [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
16. [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
17. Lithuania, Central Electoral Commission (*Vyriausioji rinkimų komisija*) (2012) Decision on approval of guidelines instructing the setting of voting sites (*Sprendimas dėl balsavimo patalpos įrengimo tvarkos aprašo patvirtinimo*), No. Sp-345, 5 December 2012. [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
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19. Lithuania, Central Electoral Commission. [↑](#footnote-ref-19)
20. *Centre National d’Information et de Rencontre du Handicap* [↑](#footnote-ref-20)
21. News release Info-Handicap (2011); Wort Newspapet (2011). [↑](#footnote-ref-21)
22. Netherlands, Elections Act, Article J4(2). [↑](#footnote-ref-22)
23. [www.cg-raad.nl/wij\_werken\_aan/toegankelijkheid/stemmen/index.php](http://www.cg-raad.nl/wij_werken_aan/toegankelijkheid/stemmen/index.php) [↑](#footnote-ref-23)
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25. See the website of the Dutch Electoral Council: [www.kiesraad.nl/nl/Onderwerpen/Thema-Stemmen/Hulp\_bij\_stemmen.html](http://www.kiesraad.nl/nl/Onderwerpen/Thema-Stemmen/Hulp_bij_stemmen.html) [↑](#footnote-ref-25)
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28. Sweden, Election Act2005:837 (*Vallagen, 2005:837*), available at: [www.val.se/det\_svenska\_valsystemet/lagar/vallagen/](http://www.val.se/det_svenska_valsystemet/lagar/vallagen/) [↑](#footnote-ref-28)
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31. FRA Annual Report 2013, forthcoming. [↑](#footnote-ref-31)
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33. UK (2000). [↑](#footnote-ref-33)
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