

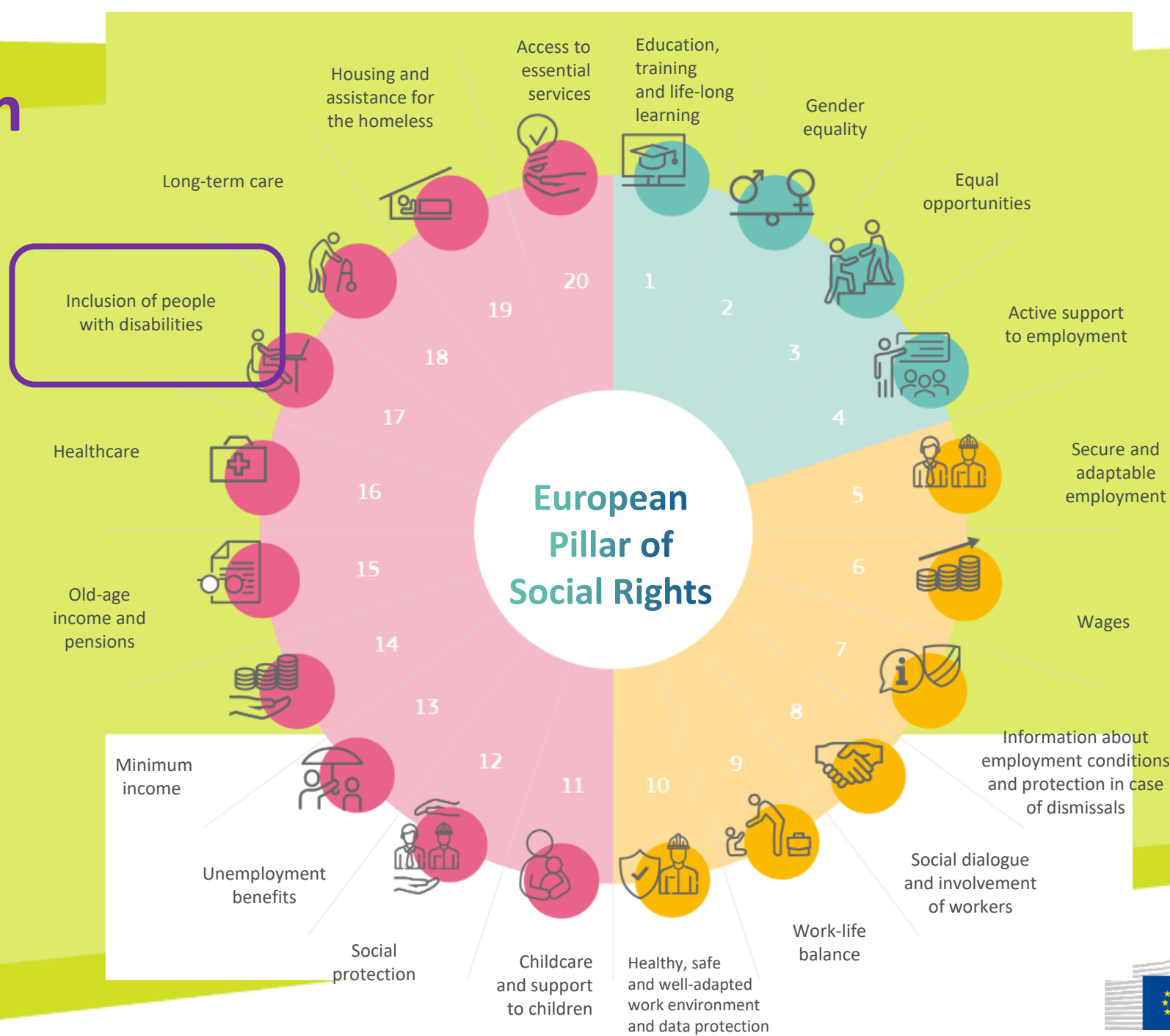


Union of Equality: Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030

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European Pillar of Social Rights



'People with disabilities have the right to income support that ensures living in dignity, services that enable them to participate in the labour market and in society, and a work environment adapted to their needs'

European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan

At least

78%

of the population aged 20 to 64 should be **in employment** by 2030

At least

60%

of all adults should **participate in training** every year by 2030

At least

15 million

fewer people at risk of poverty or social exclusion by 2030

- Council Conclusions (2022) **on the inclusion of persons with disabilities into the labour market** at the Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council (EPSCO): reiterating the call of the Strategy **to set up by 2024 national targets for increasing employment of persons with disabilities**, and targets for their **participation in adult learning**.

Union of Equality: Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030

- Accessibility – an enabler of rights, autonomy and equality
- Enjoying EU rights
- Decent quality of life and living independently
- Equal participation and non-discrimination
- Promoting the rights of persons with disabilities globally
- Efficiently delivering the Strategy
- The Commission's ambition for the next decade - leading by example
- Awareness, governance and measuring progress

7 Flagship initiatives

- 1 Disability Platform
- 2 Package to improve labour market outcomes
- 3 European resource centre AccessibleEU
- 4 Guidance on independent living
- 5 European Disability Card
- 6 Quality framework for social services
- 7 New Commission HR strategy

57 Commission actions

23 calls for Member States

1. Disability Platform

- An **expert group** (European Commission, Member States, civil society) established in 2021 by the Commission decision
- It has an annual work programme
- Supports implementation of the Strategy and the UNCRPD
- 5 sub-groups on flagship initiatives were established and have met: Employment package, AccessibleEU, European Disability Card, Independent living, social services of excellence.



2. AccessibleEU - European resource centre

The Commission launched AccessibleEU, a European **resource centre** to:

- Build the capacity on accessibility in the Member States
- Support the implementation of the European Union legislation on accessibility
- Connect stakeholders for implementing accessibility
- Create a common European space, a one-stop-shop on accessibility
- Train excellent professionals on accessibility
- 80 events per year (implementation 2023-2026)



Join in at: [AccessibleEU \(europa.eu\)](https://europa.eu)

3. Directive to establish a European Disability Card and a European Parking Card for PwDs

- Facilitate free movement and equal access to services for persons with disabilities in the EU.
- Facilitate use and legal certainty in the use of the EU parking card for persons with disabilities.
- When travelling to another Member State, European Disability Card holders would benefit from **special conditions and preferential treatment** when accessing services as granted to residents of that Member State due to their disability.



4. Guidance on independent living and inclusion in the community of persons with disabilities in the context of EU funding

- The notice provides policy building blocks and practical guidance on **how to use EU funding**, including Cohesion Policy funding, **to promote the right of persons with disabilities to live independently and be included in the community.**
- The objective is to help Member States and stakeholders accelerate the **transition from institutional care to community-based services and independent living.**
- The Commission has been assisted in this work by the sub-group on independent living from the Disability Platform, composed of relevant public authorities from MS and umbrella civil society organisations.

5. Quality framework for social services of excellence

- The **quality framework** will aim at supporting Member States in **improving service delivery** for persons with disabilities and enhancing the **attractiveness of jobs** in this area, for example, through upskilling and reskilling of service providers.




6. Disability employment package


- Consisting of **guidelines, practices and learning opportunities.**
- Covering all stages of employment: recruitment, retention, prevention.
- Developed with key stakeholders, PES Network, EU OSHA, Cedefop.
- Addressed to **employers/associations, public authorities, NGOs.**



European Skills Agenda – joining forces under the Pact for Skills



Businesses (large and small), social partners, education and training providers, associations, cluster organisations, national, regional and local authorities, chambers of commerce and employment services etc.



Upskilling & reskilling of people of working age

The Pact for Skills is gaining momentum

- **20 Large Scale Skills Partnerships** now launched in all key industrial ecosystems: together, LSPs committed to provide **up- and reskilling opportunities to over 25 million people** by 2030.
- **Focus on Regional level:** Nine regional partnerships launched

Key Achievements until end of 2023

- **3.5 M** benefited from up- and reskilling activities
- **92,000** stakeholders were involved in collaboration with Pact members
- **€310 M** were invested into up- and reskilling activities

European Year of Skills – focus on vulnerable groups

- The Year strongly confirmed the need for an **inclusive approach** and **tailored solutions for vulnerable groups**.
- The flagship event “Meet the Champions of Excellence” put a **spotlight on persons with disabilities** by giving space for champions of the Abilympics competition to showcase their skills and experiences.
- **Inclusion is key to a skills revolution.**



“ I took part in the **Special Employment Integration project** which provides career advice, training, traineeships and skills certification for people with disabilities throughout Greece. The programme helped me improve my skills, and find a job that suits me.

Evaggelos, Greece

Thank you!