EN P-000213/2021 Answer given by Ms Dalli on behalf of the European Commission (28.4.2021)

The results of the study assessing the EU Disability Card system will be published in 2021.

Preliminary results of the study point to evidence of EU added value brought about by the Card. In particular, the Card introduced the voluntary mutual recognition of disability status across participating Member States and has been recognised by participating service providers in order to deliver services with similar conditions to persons with disabilities from other Member States that are holders of the Card. The limited number of countries and services participating in the system has been identified as a weakness.

The results of the study were taken into account in the preparation of the new Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030, which was launched on 3 March 2021. In the Strategy, the Commission proposes as one of its seven flagship initiatives continuing with the EU Disability Card initiative. The Commission will propose creating a European Disability Card by end of 2023 with a view to be recognised in all Member States. It will build on the experience of the ongoing EU Disability Card pilot project in eight Member States and upon the European parking card for persons with disabilities.