



Notification Number: 2016/280/F

Digital Republic Bill: Article 44 - Accessibility of public websites to people with disabilities

Date received : 14/06/2016

End of Standstill : 15/09/2016

Message

Message 002

Communication from the Commission - TRIS/(2016) 01751

Directive (EU) 2015/1535

Translation of the message 001

Notification: 2016/0280/F

No abre el plazo - Nezahajuje odklady - Fristerne indledes ikke - Kein Fristbeginn - Viivituste perioodi ei avata - Καμμία έναρξη προθεσμίας - Does not open the delays - N'ouvre pas de délais - Non fa decorrere la mora - Neietekmē atlikšanu - Atidėjimai nepradedami - Nem nyitja meg a késések - Ma' jiftaħ il-perijodi ta' dawmien - Geen termijnbegin - Nie otwiera opóźnień - Não inicia o prazo - Neotvorí oneskorenia - Ne uvaja zamud - Määräaika ei ala tästä - Inleder ingen frist - He ce предвижда период на прекъсване - Nu deschide perioadele de stagnare - Nu deschide perioadele de stagnare.

(MSG: 201601751.EN)

1. Structured Information Line

MSG 002 IND 2016 0280 F EN 14-06-2016 F NOTIF

2. Member State

F

3. Department Responsible

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3. Originating Department

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4. Notification Number

2016/0280/F - SERV

5. Title

Digital Republic Bill: Article 44 - Accessibility of public websites to people with disabilities

6. Products Concerned

Public websites

7. Notification Under Another Act

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8. Main Content

Article 44 of the Digital Bill on accessibility of public websites to people with disabilities reaffirms the obligation of accessibility that features in Law No 2005-102 of 11 February 2005 on the equality of rights and opportunities, participation and citizenship of people with disabilities (Article 47). It also aims to extend the scope of Article 47 of the Law of 11 February 2005, which provides for the online public communication services of State departments, local authorities and the public establishments depending on them, to be accessible to people with disabilities. The scope is extended to delegated bodies in public service and certain categories of undertakings (those benefiting from public finance and those providing services of general interest). This Article also clarifies the procedures for making public sites accessible. Reference is made to the international recommendations on accessibility. The communication services covered by this Article must be supplemented with a multi-year accessibility plan of no more than three years' duration, broken down into annual action plans. The websites covered by this regulation must also indicate whether or not they comply with the accessibility rules by means of a note on the home page. They must also provide a link 'to a page indicating, among other things, the status of the multi-year accessibility plan and the action plan for the current year mentioned in I and enabling users to flag any shortcomings regarding the accessibility of this service'.

Finally, Article 44 establishes a regime of financial sanctions in the event of failure to fulfil the various obligations provided for in this draft regulation.

9. Brief Statement of Grounds

Article 44 of the draft "Digital Republic" law is intended to promote the inclusion and participation in community life of people with disabilities. This objective is increasingly depending on internet accessibility, particularly via the websites of public services and the mobile applications that they develop, but also via digital street furniture. It is also intended to facilitate interactions between people with disabilities and the various undertakings working in public service. Article 44 is intended to provide more effective means for its implementation.

Ten years on from the adoption of the 2005 'Disability' law, the majority of public websites continue to be inaccessible to disabled people. A study carried out in France showed that only 4 % of websites were accessible (<http://www.brailletnet.org/>). The French authorities would like to implement a more effective mechanism aligned with the European Directive on the accessibility of public websites.

To this end, Article 44 of the Digital Republic Bill introduces a self-declaration for public websites when they have not applied accessibility measures. The obligation to post a statement to the effect that the website is not accessible should encourage public websites to take the needs of people with disabilities into better account.



10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts

Reference(s) to basic text(s): Article 47 of Law No 2005-102 of 11 February 2005 on the equality of rights and opportunities, participation and citizenship of people with disabilities

11. Invocation of the Emergency Procedure

No

12. Grounds for the Emergency

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13. Confidentiality

No

14. Fiscal measures

No

15. Impact assessment

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16. TBT and SPS aspects

TBT aspect

No - the draft is neither a technical provision nor a conformity assessment procedure.

SPS aspect

No - the draft is neither a sanitary nor phytosanitary measure.

European Commission

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