



Press Release

ACT for more ACCESSIBILITY in Europe!

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For all too long, ANEC has been [pressing](#) for regulatory action underpinned by standards to increase the access of consumers of all ages and abilities to everyday products and services. We [welcomed](#) the European Commission proposal for a European Accessibility Act (COM(2015) 615final), adopted on 2 December 2015, as it aimed to improve the functioning of the EU internal market for accessible products and services by removing barriers created by divergent laws.

The proposal for a EAA is now being discussed in the European Parliament, and the recently published draft report of the Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO) is disappointing, as it waters down the Commission proposal. The report threatens to lead to an unambitious position of the Parliament, which will not represent the interests of EU consumers, nor promote their rights effectively, including 80 million persons with disabilities, and 190 million citizens aged 50 and older. ANEC, together with EDF and AGE, expressed its concern about the direction the IMCO report is taking, in [an open letter to MEPs](#) which draws their attention to several elements of the report which threaten the Act.

Today, prior to the IMCO meeting on the European Accessibility Act, ANEC adds its voice to that of EDF in asking the Parliament to ACT for a strong and ambitious Act.

ENDS.

About ANEC

ANEC is the European consumer voice in standardisation, defending consumer interests in the processes of technical standardisation and conformity assessment, as well as related legislation and public policies.

ANEC was established in 1995 as an international non-profit association under Belgian law and is open to the representation of national consumer organisations in 33 countries. In 2016, we celebrated our 21st Anniversary (#ANEC21).

ANEC is funded by the European Union and EFTA, with national consumer organisations contributing in kind. Its Secretariat is based in Brussels.



Raising standards for consumers

**European association for the coordination
of consumer representation in standardisation aisbl**

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