

All aboard!

A trip through Europe's
7½ accessibility standards

About us

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Principal Accessibility Standards
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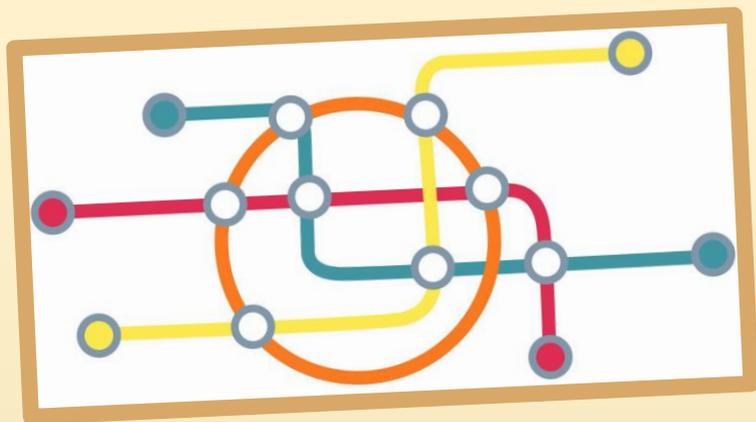


Wilco Fiers

Deque Systems

Director accessibility automation,
axe-core, axe linter &
advanced rules





Map of today's EAA journey

- EN 301 549
- WCAG 2
- ✗ WCAG 3
- Support Services
- EN 17161 Design for All
- Non-digital Information
- Emergency Services
- EN 17210 Built Environment
- E-books (½)

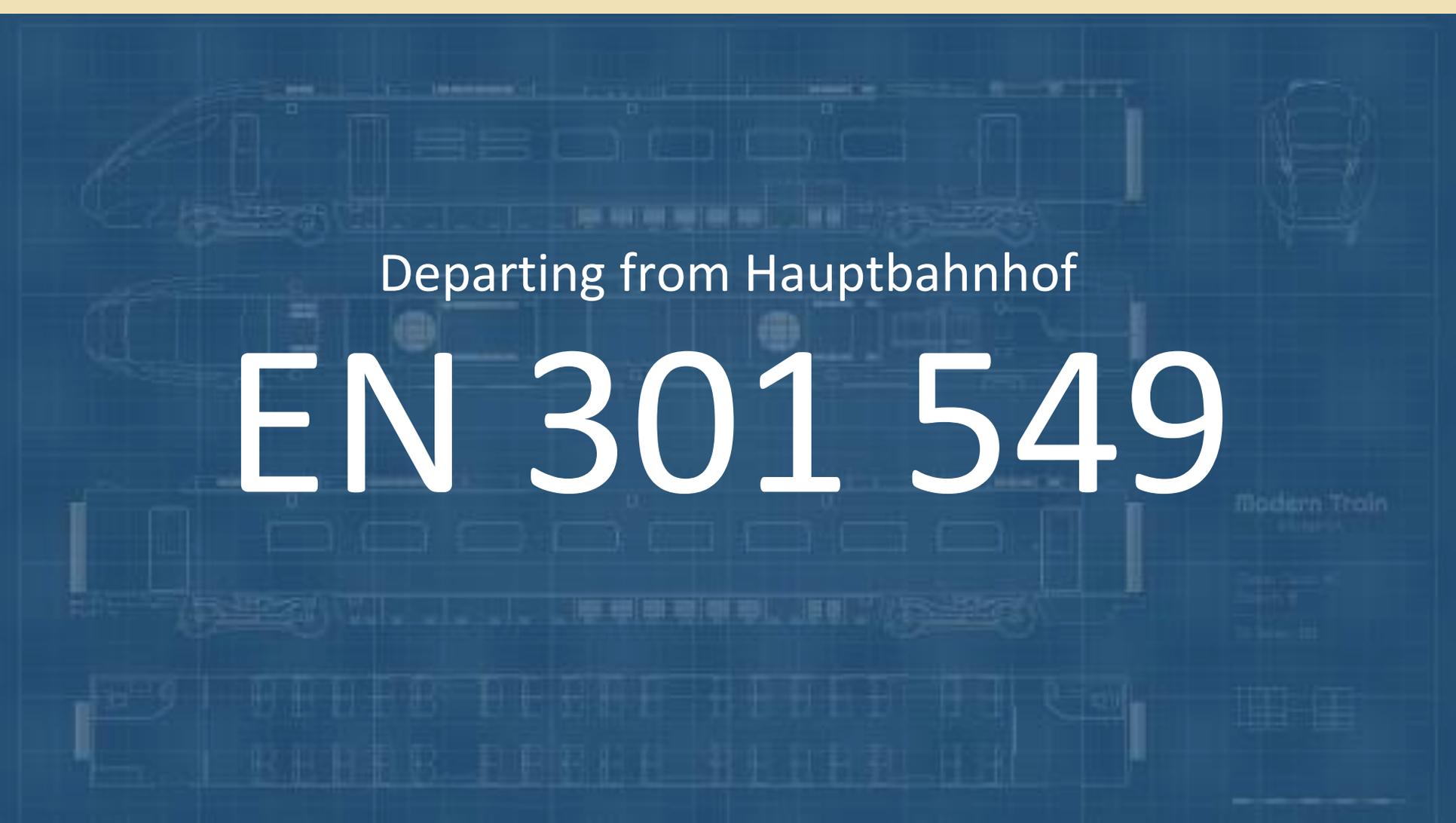
How do these technical standards relate to the EAA?



Table A.1: Web C...

Table A.2: Mobile Applications - relationship between the present document and the essential requirements of Directive 2016/2102/EU

No.		Requirement					Requirement conditionality		Assessment	
		No.	Clause of the present document	Essential requirements of Directive 2016/2102				Conditional or Unconditional		Condition
				Perceivable	Operable	Understandable	Robust			
1	5.2 A featur									
2	5.3 Bi									
3	5.4 Pr inform	1	5.2 Activation of accessibility features	✓	✓	✓	✓	C	Where ICT has documented accessibility features	C.5.2
4	6.1 Auc	2	5.3 Biometrics		✓			C	Where ICT uses biological characteristics	C.5.3
5	6.2.1.1	3	5.4 Preservation of accessibility information during conversion	✓		✓	✓	C	Where ICT converts information or communication	C.5.4
6	6.2.1.2 text	4	5.5.1 Means of operation		✓			C	Where ICT has operable parts	C.5.5.1
7	6.2.2.1 V display	5	5.5.2 Operable parts discernibility	✓	✓			C	Where ICT has operable parts	C.5.5.2
		6	5.6.1 Tactile or auditory status	✓	✓			C	Where ICT has a locking or toggle control	C.5.6.1
		7	5.6.2 Visual status	✓	✓			C	Where ICT has a locking or toggle control	C.5.6.2



Departing from Hauptbahnhof

EN 301 549

Modern Train
2018/19

Open Date: 19
Length: 7
No. Seats: 101



History of EN 301 549

- 1.1.1: *February 2014*: Procurement Directive
- 2.1.2: *August 2018*: Web Accessibility Directive
- 3.2.1: *March 2021*: Web Accessibility Directive
- 4.1.x: *September 2025*: European Accessibility Act

Sections of EN 301 549

5. Generic Requirements

6. Bidirectional
Communication

7. Video

8. Hardware

9. Web (WCAG)

10. Documents (WCAG2ICT)

11. Software (WCAG2ICT)

12. Documentation &
Support Services

13. Relay and Emergency
Service Access

Arriving at: WCAG 2 Station



Core principles

- Perceivable ...
- Operable ...
- Understandable ...
- Robust ...

Conformance levels

- Level A
Minimum level
- Level AA
Standard level
- Level AAA
Highest level
(Section 9.5 in EN 301 549)

Past & future of WCAG 2 Station

2.0: *December 2008*: Established the POUR principles and three conformance levels

- 2.1: *June 2018*: Added new success criteria for mobile accessibility, low vision, and cognitive disabilities
- 2.2: *October 2023*: Latest version with additional criteria for cognitive accessibility and mobile devices

EN 301 549 beyond WCAG

- Provide two-way Real-time text with voice communication
- Authoring tools enable and guide creating conforming content
- Biometrics shall not rely on only one biological characteristic
- ...

What about mobile apps and software?



W3C Group Note

Guidance on Applying WCAG 2 to Non-Web Information and Communications Technologies (WCAG2ICT)



W3C Group Note 15 November 2024

▼ More details about this document

This version:
<https://www.w3.org/TR/2024/NOTE-wcag2ict-22-20241115/>

Latest published version:
<https://www.w3.org/TR/wcag2ict-22/>

Latest editor's draft:
<https://w3c.github.io/wcag2ict/>

History:
<https://www.w3.org/standards/history/wcag2ict-22/>
[Commit history](#)

Editors:
[Mary Jo Mueller](#) (IBM)
[Chris Loisel](#) (Oracle Corporation)
[Phil Day](#) (NCR Atleos)

Passing by: **WCAG 3.0**



Station under construction



Not expected to be operational for several years.

- Address gaps in WCAG 2
- Easier to learn and test
- Updated to the modern web

No plans for incorporation into EN 301 549 or EAA at this time.

City map

EN 301 549 requirements

Non-web software,
Hardware, ...

Interoperability
Assistive technology

...

...

WCAG 2 (web)

Level A + AA

ICT with Video,
two-way voice

...

...

Level AAA

WCAG 3.0 (Under construction)

Leaving for: EAA Support Services

-
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What are requirements for services under the EAA?



Wait! Did you say requirements for customer support?



Now arriving at:
EN TBD 1



Support services

- Accessible modes of communication
- Information on accessibility features
- Compatibility with assistive technologies
- Partial overlap with 301 549
- Standard expected May 2027

Next stop: Design for all

-
- EN 301 549
 - WCAG 2
 - ✗ WCAG 3
 - Support Services
 - EN 17161 Design for All
 - Non-digital Information
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EN 17161: Design for All

- Process & management standard
- Involves all levels of the organisation
- Follows the plan-do-check cycle
- Identify, understand, and involve users early
- Fits other management systems (such as ISO 9001)



Procuring third-party services under EAA

Conformance of a service cannot always be determined:

- Products still under development
- Custom services
- Projects with evolving requirements

EN 17161 can be used in procuring EAA conforming services.

Next station:
EN 17210

Built environment

- Ramps, lighting, acoustics, etc.
- **Optional** Annex III for EAA
- Overlap with EN 301 549

Built-in vs freestanding terminals

Adopted by Czech Republic, Hungary, Lithuania,
Malta, Poland, and Spain *[unconfirmed, as of Jan 2024]*

Now arriving at:
EN TBD 2



Non-digital information

- Packaging & printed info
- Labels on products
- On-device instructions
- Partial overlap with 301 549
- Standard expected May 2027

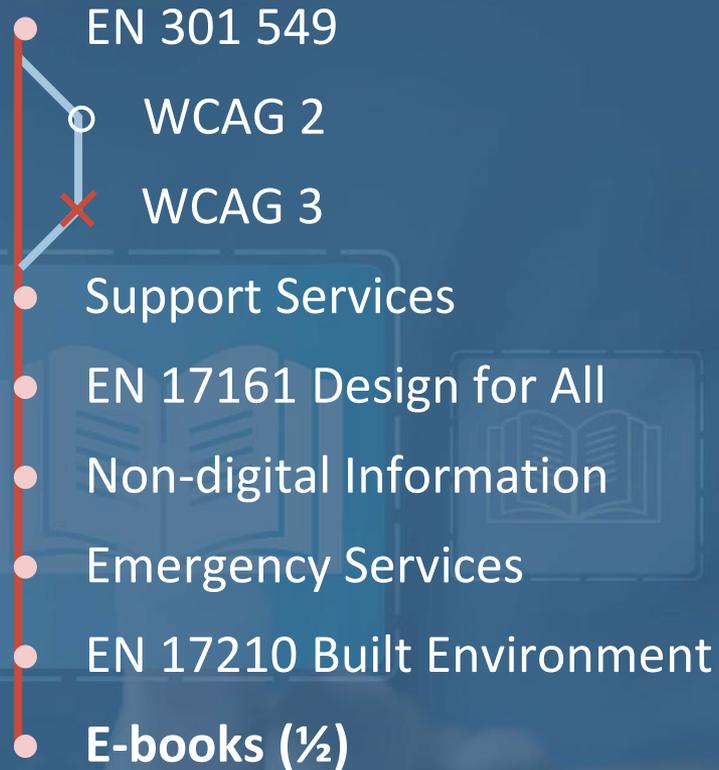
Up next:
EN TBD 3

Emergency services

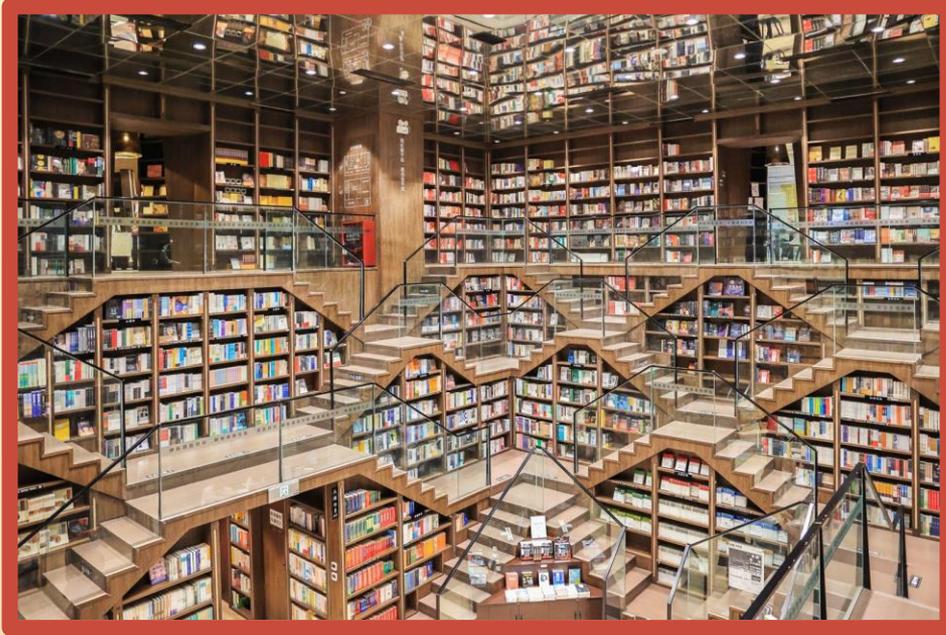
- Focus on network operators
- Ensure broad access, anywhere in Europe
- Standard expected September 2027



Arriving at: E-Books accessibility



What are requirements for e-books under the EAA?



- Interoperability with assistive technologies
- DRM not preventing accessibility features
- Access to content and navigation structure
- Flexibility in content format & presentation

Thank you!
**Remember to take all
your belongings.**

- 
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