

## Easy-to-read in Coronavirus emergency

On Tuesday 31 March 2020 Inclusion Europe held the first of a [series of online meetings](#) about matters important to persons with intellectual disabilities and their families during the [Coronavirus emergency](#).

Soufiane El Amrani, Inclusion Europe's easy-to-read and advocacy officer, talked about some of the most important rules to be followed when writing a text in easy-to-read.

*People with intellectual disabilities have to review the text.*

*If you have to use a hard word,  
make sure you explain the hard word in your document.*

*When creating easy to read text there are rules that you have to follow:*

- *You have to use large letter size*
- *You have to split your sentences onto a new line.*

*There are [European Standards](#) on how to make information in easy to read and understand.*

*I was part of the team that created the European Standards on making easy to read information easy to read and understand.*

Soufiane explained why easy-to-read is an important to provide accessible information for persons with intellectual disabilities.

Especially with so much information about the coronavirus, what to do and what not to do.

*It is important to for people with intellectual disabilities  
to know about the Coronavirus in easy to read.*

*It is also important to help people with intellectual disabilities to understand what is  
going on.*

*The Coronavirus has caused a lot of changes to our lives.*

*So the easy-to-read information is a good start – but it is important to talk to people  
and to explain what is going on.*

*The easy-to-read texts can help with that.*

## **Inclusion Europe's material about the COVID-19**

Inclusion Europe created a webpage gathering the [materials relevant to the Coronavirus emergency](#). The webpage is updated daily with new content and can be accessed [here](#).

### **The participants' contributions**

The participants engaged in the debate and shared different materials produced by different organisations in easy-to-read about the Coronavirus:

- [video](#) by the World Health Organization on how to prevent getting the Coronavirus
- [materials](#) by an Australian network called First Peoples Disability Network Australia.

There are organisations that produce daily write-up about the coronavirus situation in easy-to-read, for example the Croatian organization Udruga za Samozastupanje (their [website](#) and [twitter](#)).

Participants also discussed what kind of relevant information about the coronavirus in easy-to-read is still missing, for example:

- How the coronavirus is spreading,
- What quarantine means and why there are so many recommendations right now
- Why people wear masks when going outside.
- What to do if you cannot reach the emergency lines and how to ask for help if you don't have family members or friends.
- What happens if a person with an intellectual disability have to go to the hospital or needs to talk to a health care professional.

Video recording of the meeting is [available here](#).

Inclusion Europe organises online exchange about the Coronavirus emergency.

Follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) or [LinkedIn](#) or subscribe to our [newsletters](#) to know about them first.

[5 steps to prevent harm to people with intellectual disabilities and their families in Coronavirus emergency \(.pdf\)](#)