



Ambitions. Rights. Belonging.

# Annual report 2020



## Inclusion Europe

European movement of people with  
intellectual disabilities and their families.



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Inclusion Europe

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# About us

## Vision

We want a Europe where:

people with intellectual disabilities  
enjoy equal rights and  
fully participate  
in all aspects of life

family members of people with  
intellectual disabilities can be  
just that – family members

the interests and concerns of people  
with intellectual disabilities and  
their families are considered in  
all policies affecting them

## Mission

We fight for equal rights and full inclusion  
of people with intellectual disabilities  
and their families in all aspects of society.

# **Values**

**Respect • Solidarity • Inclusion**

# **Strategy**

**5Es represent our fight for equal rights and inclusion:**

## **2018: Empower**

celebrating achievements of inclusion

## **2019: Elect**

right to vote and European elections

## **2020: Educate**

on inclusive education.

## **2021: Employ**

on good jobs for everyone

## **2022: End Segregation**

on moving people out of institutions

# A letter from the president



Dear members and friends of Inclusion Europe,

2020 was a very different year. It has been a year of the pandemic, and the world we used to know has changed significantly. However, and sadly, for people with intellectual disabilities, most of the problems already existed, and have simply been exacerbated and sometimes made visible to the general public.

You, our members, have once again shown what a strong European inclusion movement is made of. I feel proud to be President of this movement and I wish to express my sincere gratitude to all of you for your commitment!

You undertook a tremendous amount of work to provide support during the pandemic. You advocated to uphold the rights of persons with intellectual disabilities and their families across Europe. You provided support and care. You stepped in to fill so many gaps in how the governments informed the public about the situation. Governments turned to you in the time of crisis.

All your work demonstrates the power of our inclusion movement. It demonstrates the value of our work for inclusion. It demonstrates the need of us constantly reminding our societies about the UNCRPD and the human rights that belong to everyone.

Inclusion Europe connects organisations of people with intellectual disabilities and their families throughout Europe. We represent our member organisations in 39 European countries and through them more than 20 million European citizens.

For almost 35 years I have been a member of a disability organization – local, national, European and international. During these years I have met a lot of parents and other family members to children with intellectual disabilities and there is one thing that never ceases to astonish me.

I call it the power of peer support. Meeting with other parents or family members of children with intellectual disabilities is always so easy – we seem to be connected immediately. We do not have to explain ourselves, and we understand each other from the very first words.

I am sure that I will keep on experiencing this power also during the coming years. Because I know that we will use it to spread our message of inclusion. We will use it to strengthen our movement in Europe. We will use it to make our voice heard. We will use it to promote community living and to promote a Europe where people with intellectual disabilities are included – equally human. We will use it to encourage and support the families to live like any other family.

Also, our secretariat in Brussels has throughout the pandemic worked under circumstances that have never been experienced before. Neither the pandemic nor the circumstances are over yet. We have had new staff members and interns joining us and working with us without a possibility to meet each other. All our events and meetings went online, and the work plan was applied to a digital environment. The staff has been isolated from each other, working from their homes, and yet been able to maintain a sense of belonging. I wish to thank our secretariat for your hard work and your flexibility, determination, control and endurance during this very hard year.

I also wish to thank and express my admiration to all of our members and other organizations supporting people with intellectual disabilities and families during these difficult times. Your work has been essential.

And all my thoughts, solidarity and respect to all those with disabilities and family members dealing with the impact of the pandemic and supporting each other.

Jyrki Pinomaa  
President

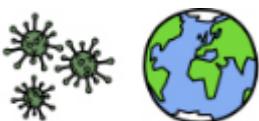
# A letter from the president – Easy to read



The president of **Inclusion Europe** Jyrki Pinomaa said the following:

2020 has come to an end.

It has been a difficult year.



The world has changed because of **COVID-19** and it is not the same world as we know it.



People with **intellectual disabilities** still face many problems.

It makes me happy to be president of a great movement.

I thank everyone who has been part of the movement.



Many people have helped people with intellectual disabilities to try and understand what COVID-19 is.



Inclusion has connected many different organizations and their families throughout Europe.

Inclusion Europe  
represents 39 European countries.



The main goal of Inclusion Europe  
is that all people with intellectual disabilities  
and their families are represented across Europe.

I have been a member of a  
disability organization for around  
35 years in local, national, **European**  
and international.



I have met a lot of families who  
have a child who has a disability.



Inclusion Europe will  
make sure that the voices of people with  
intellectual disabilities are heard all over the world.



I thank the staff working at Inclusion Europe.  
I thank all Inclusion Europe members  
for all their hard work.



I express my sympathy  
to all those directly affected by the Covid pandemic.

Jyrki Pinomaa  
President

# EPSA report



My name is László Bercse.

I come from Budapest, Hungary.

I am the Vice-President of Inclusion Europe  
and the Chair of **EPSA**.

EPSA is the European Platform of **Self-Advocates**.

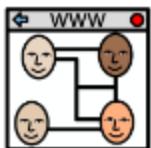
I would like to tell you  
what EPSA worked on in 2020.

# New challenges



The COVID-19 pandemic changed the way we work.

It affected the work of the **EPSA Steering Group** and the work of EPSA members.



Most organisations worked online.

This was difficult for some self-advocates, who have no computer, phone or access to the internet.



For some self-advocates it was difficult to join online meetings without having their supporters in the same room.

As an international organisation, It was very difficult for us because of the translation.

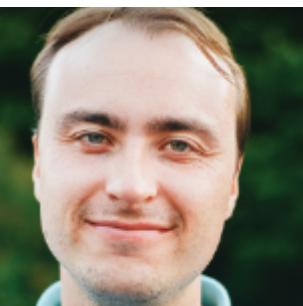


But we continued working and speaking up.



Self-advocates discovered new ways to stay in contact and to advocate.

## A new member of the Steering Group



In 2020 we said goodbye to Harry Roche.

Harry decided to focus on his national work in the United Kingdom.

Harry had been a Steering Group member for a long time.

We were happy to work with Harry and wished him all the best for the future.



Ana Martinez from Spain got elected as the new member of the Steering Group.

Ana had been working with the Steering Group for some time already.

We were glad to welcome Ana to the group.



## Steering Group meeting in Brussels



In January, we had a Steering Group meeting in Brussels.

We started planning the Hear Our Voices 2021 conference.

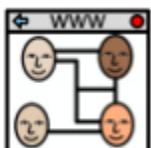


We talked about how Inclusion Europe can better include self-advocates in its work.

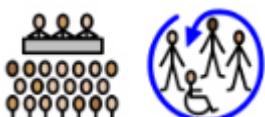
We also talked about  
how EPSA can include more

- young people
- self-advocate women
- and people with complex support needs.

This was the first and also the last time  
we met in person in 2020.



In the rest of the year, we had online meetings.



## Towards Inclusion conference

In January, the **European Commission**  
organised a conference in Brussels.

The title of the conference was Towards Inclusion.

The conference was about  
10 years of **deinstitutionalization** in Europe.

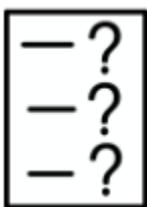


Elisabeta Moldovan was one of the speakers.

Elisabeta is a member of the EPSA Steering Group.

Elisabeta told her experiences about **institutions** and about the importance of support.

## Position paper on the COVID-19 situation



In spring, EPSA prepared a survey.

We asked our members how they were coping with the situation.



We used the answers to write a position paper.

We wrote about the main issues and what we want to achieve.



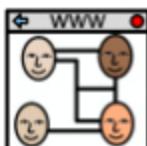
We want to make sure that our rights are respected and we are not left behind.

We want to be considered when planning support services for the future.



## EDF conference

EDF is the **European Disability Forum**.



EDF and Lebenshilfe Germany organised an online conference in October.

The conference was about the situation of people with disabilities during COVID-19.



Andreas Zehetner was one of the speakers.

Andreas is from Austria.

He is a member of EPSA Steering Group.

Andreas said that governments not always consider us when planning measures.

## **Self-Advocates in Inclusion Europe's board**

Harry Roche  
left Inclusion Europe board.



Oswald Föllerer joined the board.

Oswald is an Austrian member of EPSA Steering Group.

Oswald helps us to make sure  
that the voices of self-advocates  
are heard in Inclusion Europe.



## My Talents for Diversity project

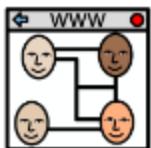
In 2020 Inclusion Europe had a project about employment.

The title of the project was **My Talents for Diversity**.



The project aimed to support the employment of people with intellectual disabilities.

Self-Advocates also worked on the project.



There were online events during the project.



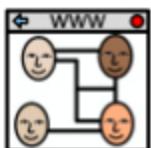
László spoke at two of the events.

László spoke about why employment is important for self-advocates and how to support the employment of self-advocates.



## The conference of PSONI

PSONI is the Polish Association of Persons with Intellectual Disability.



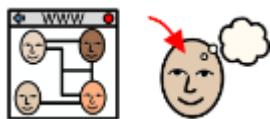
In November, PSONI organised an online conference for self-advocates.

László sent a video message to the conference.



László talked about the work of EPSA and the role of self-advocates in Inclusion Europe.

## Learning by Sharing events



In November, EPSA organised national events for self-advocates, online.

We called them Learning by Sharing.



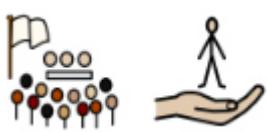
Self-advocates could share their experience about the COVID-19 situation and learn from each other.

We had 7 online events in 7 different languages.

We had 71 attendees altogether, from 11 countries.



Self-advocates shared how they overcame difficulties, so others could learn ways to do the same.



We also heard useful suggestions on how governments should support us and ensure our rights in situations like this in the future.

# European Day of Persons with Disabilities



Every December, the European Commission organises a conference called the European Day of Persons with Disabilities.



This year they had a discussion about the COVID-19 situation and the recovery after the emergency.

László was asked to speak at the discussion.



László said that the **governments** must learn from the experiences.

They must listen to us, when planning protection measures.



Our lives are as valuable as others'.

# Thank you!

I want to thank my colleagues  
and everyone in our movement  
for their work in 2020.



I really admire all persons with intellectual disabilities,  
family members supporting them  
and the staff of services.

I hope that 2021 is going to be a better year.

I am looking forward  
to meeting you in person soon!

László Bercse  
Chair  
European Platform of Self-Advocates

# Topic of the year: Education

## Accessibility

Accessibility is a founding element of inclusive education.

The right to accessibility and reasonable accommodation guarantee to all learners with disabilities the right to attend schools on an equal basis to others and without discrimination.

inclusion europe

## Everyone

Everyone has the right to learn.

According to article 24 of the UN CRPD\*, State parties must take steps to ensure that all people with disabilities have access to quality education.

\* Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

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## Opportunities

Inclusive education provides all learners with equitable learning opportunities within the regular school system.

It also provides all children with opportunities to learn and accept one another's abilities, talents and needs.

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## The ABCs of inclusive education

Inclusion Europe created the ABCs of inclusive education to help you understand what Inclusive education is and what its benefits and challenges are.

<b>Accessibility</b> The founding element of inclusive education.	<b>Be part of the community</b> All students can be part of their community.	<b>Cooperation</b> Collaborate and support one another.
<b>Diversity</b> School culture that respects and values diversity.	<b>Everyone</b> Education as a fundamental human right.	<b>Flexible</b> Teaching methods must meet the individual needs of learners.
<b>Growing</b> Inclusion has no limits. It's constantly evolving and growing.	<b>Health</b> Learners with disabilities who have been included in school are healthier.	<b>Invest in ECCE</b> Invest in inclusive early childhood care and education
<b>Justice</b> Accessible and adequate disability support.	<b>Keep an open mind</b> Open minded teachers and recognition of different learning styles.	<b>Legislative frameworks</b> Laws should promote the right to access inclusive education for all.
<b>Ministry</b> Responsibility for educating all students of the same age and level of education.	<b>Needs</b> An education system that responds to the needs of every child without discrimination.	<b>Opportunities</b> An education system that provides all students with the same learning opportunities.
<b>Physical accommodation</b> Ramps instead of stairs, doorways wide enough for wheelchair users.	<b>Quality</b> High-quality education for all learners.	<b>Resources</b> Financial and human resources to support inclusion.
<b>No segregation</b> Inclusion involves ending segregation.	<b>Trained teachers</b> Trained and supported teachers on how to individualise their teaching.	<b>Understanding</b> Inclusive classrooms foster attitudes of understanding and empathy.
<b>Value other perspectives</b> Creating opportunities for students to learn in a variety of ways.	<b>Work together</b> Learners with and without disabilities attending the classes together.	<b>Extra benefits</b> Learners with disabilities who have been included are more likely to be active citizens.
<b>Yearn for more</b> Until all learners with intellectual disabilities have access to quality education.	<b>Zero reject policy</b> No student with a disability can be denied an education.	<b>inclusion europe</b>

# COVID-19 response

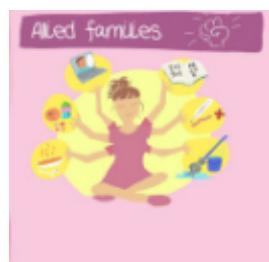
Inclusion Europe responded to the pandemic by producing easy-to-read materials that were translated and shared by many organisations.

- 5 steps to prevent harm to people with intellectual disabilities and their families
- Easy-to-read information about Coronavirus
- Accessibility of online events
- Report on Covid impact
- Lack of education made worse by the pandemic

To raise awareness about situation of people with intellectual disabilities and families during the Coronavirus emergency, Inclusion Europe organised 11 online exchanges and webinars.

With the development of the vaccine, Inclusion Europe provided useful information in Easy-to-read for people with intellectual disabilities in multiple languages.

Inclusion Europe monitored and evaluated the COVID-19 impact on the rights of people with intellectual disabilities, issuing a report about the situation. The report was shared by many organisations online as well as in the Politico Brussels Playbook newsletter received by over 100,000 subscribers.





## 5 steps to prevent harm to people with intellectual disabilities and their families in Coronavirus emergency.



Inform  
clearly



Help  
now



Prevent  
further  
harm

1. **Inform clearly**  
about what  
people should do  
to protect  
themselves  
and others.

2. **Deliver the  
information**  
to people with  
intellectual  
disabilities and  
their families.

3. **Help to deal with  
emergency,**  
limited services  
and crisis plans.

4. **Help to overcome  
isolation**  
while social  
distancing  
measures are in  
place.

5. **Protect  
disability rights**  
and related  
funding.

There are recommendations, examples and practices for each of these 5 steps.  
Use them!

Inclusion Europe

[www.inclusion-europe.eu](http://www.inclusion-europe.eu)

@InclusionEurope



## What is the coronavirus vaccine?



# Petition to protect the rights of persons with intellectual disabilities

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 emergency, there have been several cases of national laws being incompatible with the rights of people with intellectual disabilities. Therefore, Inclusion Europe submitted a petition to the Committee on Petitions of the European Parliament to several cases of national laws being incompatible with either the UN CRPD or the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights.

The petition lead to a resolution in the European Parliament to protect the rights of people with intellectual disabilities during the pandemic. The European Parliament approved the resolution by 682 votes in favour, 3 against and 10 abstentions.

It was important not only right now to address the discrimination that people with disabilities are subjected to, but also to learn lessons for potential future emergency situations.

**“**We very much support this petition. We have to create a framework so people with disabilities can return to their daily lives and society. As Europe we have to ensure that Member States are really implementing the UN CRPD and we have to ensure people with disabilities have more equal participation in society. So, we need support funding for the families and Europe needs to ensure people with disabilities aren't left behind. – Ulrike Muller (MEP, Renew Europe Group)

**“**Coronavirus and the lockdown highlighted the ongoing segregation and discrimination of people with intellectual disabilities, especially in access to healthcare. Equality and human rights were ignored. This is unacceptable and must never happen again. We appreciate the European Parliament reassured people with intellectual disabilities and their families about their rights set out both in the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights and the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. – Jyrki Pinomaa, President of Inclusion Europe.

- <https://twitter.com/EPPGroup/status/1281848699547578368>
- [https://twitter.com/EP\\_Petitions/status/1280942301620158464](https://twitter.com/EP_Petitions/status/1280942301620158464)
- <https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20200706IPR82732/persons-with-intellectual-disabilities-need-better-protection-during-pandemic>



— “ —  
No sign of compassion  
of any kind. **No**  
**understanding** of the  
feelings evoked by the  
sudden separation  
between residents  
and families.

**Jyrki Pinomaa**  
Inclusion Europe President



Press room / Persons with intellectual disabilities need better prote...

# Persons with intellectual disabilities need better protection during pandemic

Press Releases PLENARY SESSION PETI 08-07-2020 - 21:03

COVID-19 has exacerbated persistent segregation and discrimination against persons with disabilities, exposing flaws in support systems, healthcare and education.

In a resolution adopted by 682 votes in favour, 3 against and 10 abstentions, MEPs call on member states to ensure equal and non-discriminatory access to healthcare and social services for persons with intellectual disabilities, as well as psychological support and access to legal recourse and information during and in the aftermath of COVID-19.

Parliament recalls that strict lockdown measures have caused further isolation for persons with disabilities, harmed their mental health and led to the disruption of regular health treatment, personal assistance and distance learning. Authorities need to treat persons with disabilities as a priority and not further isolate them, say MEPs, calling for greater flexibility as countries emerge from lockdown.

Reinforcing support systems and preparing for the future

## Further information

> Motion for resolution

> Video recording of the discussion in the Committee on Petitions

> Committee on Petitions

rt You Retweeted



PETI Committee Press

@EP\_Petitions

...

Parliament approves [@EP\\_Petitions](#) resolution on protection of persons with intellectual disabilities by 682 votes in favour, 3 against and 10 abstentions.

Press release



Persons with intellectual disabilities need better protection ...  
COVID-19 has exacerbated persistent segregation and discrimination against persons with disabilities, exposing ...  
[europarl.europa.eu](#)

9:10 PM · Jul 8, 2020 · Twitter Web App

8 Retweets 2 Quote Tweets 13 Likes



Helen @HelenPortal2 · Jul 8, 2020

Replying to [@EP\\_Petitions](#)

Thank you to the [@EP\\_Petitions](#) for supporting the petition and drafting this great resolution !



# COVID-19 response

## – Easy to read



Inclusion Europe produced many easy-to-read materials.



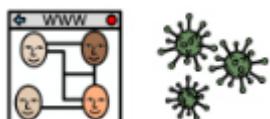
The materials were about the **COVID-19** and how to cope with isolation.

The materials were translated and shared by many organisations.



Inclusion Europe provided easy-to-read Information about the **vaccinees**.

Early in the **pandemic** Inclusion Europe organised many online meetings.



The online meetings were about the COVID-19 situation in different countries and impact on people with **intellectual disabilities**



The **European Parliament** approved a decision in defence of rights of people with intellectual disabilities in times of COVID-19 crisis.



This decision is based on a **petition** from Inclusion Europe.

The petition calls for measures that protect people with intellectual disabilities during and after the COVID-19 emergency.



Inclusion Europe published a report about how COVID-19 affected the rights of people with intellectual disabilities and their families.



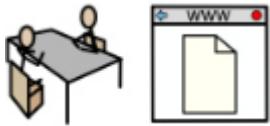
The report shows people with intellectual disabilities were **segregated and discriminated**.

# Education campaign – Easy to read



In 2021, Inclusion Europe promoted **inclusive education**.

With help of members and partners, Inclusion Europe shared best practices and experiences of inclusive education.

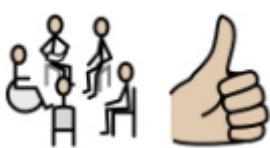


Inclusion Europe made a lot of articles, interviews, features and social media posts.

## #ThatsWhatIlearned social media campaign



Inclusion Europe invited everyone to participate in our campaign.



Inclusion Europe shared the benefits of learning together.



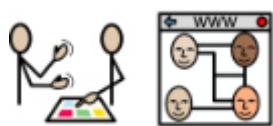
The campaign was shared on social media and made in several languages.



# ABCs of inclusive education



Inclusion Europe used the letters of the alphabet to describe what is inclusive education in easy to read and understand.



Inclusion Europe developed visuals and infographics for the social media channels which reached over 60 000 thousand people.

## Interviews



For the Educate campaign Inclusion Europe interviewed Anne-Marie Callus, Maria Alexandrova, Thibeau Bastien, Rafael Calderón, Carmen Jiménez Recena and many other organisations and members who shared educational stories and best practices.

# My Talents For Diversity project



Without employment, millions of people with intellectual disabilities across the EU are exposed to poverty and further social exclusion. The project My Talents For Diversity addressed these issues by providing tools for diversity management in relation to workers and employees with intellectual and learning disabilities.

The project was led by Inclusion Europe and its partners Plena Inclusión (Spain), EVPIT (Estonia and Antwerp Management School (Belgium) and funded by European Commission – under the "Rights, Equality and Citizenship" programme.

The project carried out an extensive desk research, launched a survey and formulated an online catalogue with 26 examples of inclusive companies from 12 EU countries.

Despite the coronavirus outbreak in 2020 we organised 58 events informing employers, policy makers and other stakeholders about inclusive employment.

At the EU level we organised 7 events and 1 International forum, reaching out to 243 people. The events brought together members of academia, service providers associations at EU level, DPOs, high profile speakers at EU level, and speakers at UN level.

Inclusion Europe wrote 19 articles, one for every event and outcome of the project, and made them accessible for people with intellectual disabilities by providing easy-to-read versions of the texts.



Inclusion Europe produced 4 campaigns that reached 200,249 people and promoted the My Talents For Diversity project, its events, outcomes and implementation updates.

Inclusion Europe made 15 videos. This includes videos about supporting people with intellectual disabilities at the workplace translated into 7 languages.



# My Talents For Diversity project – Easy to read



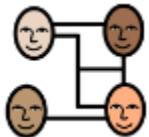
Finding a job is often difficult for people with intellectual disabilities.



The “**My Talents. For Diversity**” project supports people with intellectual disabilities in finding a job.



The project connects people with intellectual disabilities with employers.



Inclusion Europe is doing this project with other organisations:

- Plena Inclusión from Spain
- EVPIT from Estonia
- Antwerp Management School from Belgium



The project is funded by the **European Commission**.



The project made an online catalogue with 26 examples of inclusive companies from 12 EU countries.



The project partners organised 58 events.

At the European level seven events  
and one International forum were organised.

The events had 243 participants.



Inclusion Europe wrote 19 articles  
with easy-to-read versions of the texts.



Inclusion Europe worked on four campaigns.

The online campaigns reached 200,249 people.



Inclusion Europe made 15 videos about employment.



# Supporting women with intellectual disabilities



Data shows that, on average, women with intellectual disabilities are two to five times more likely to face violence than other women. In the European Union, 34% of women with health problems or a disability have experienced direct violence, physical or sexual, by a partner in their lifetime.

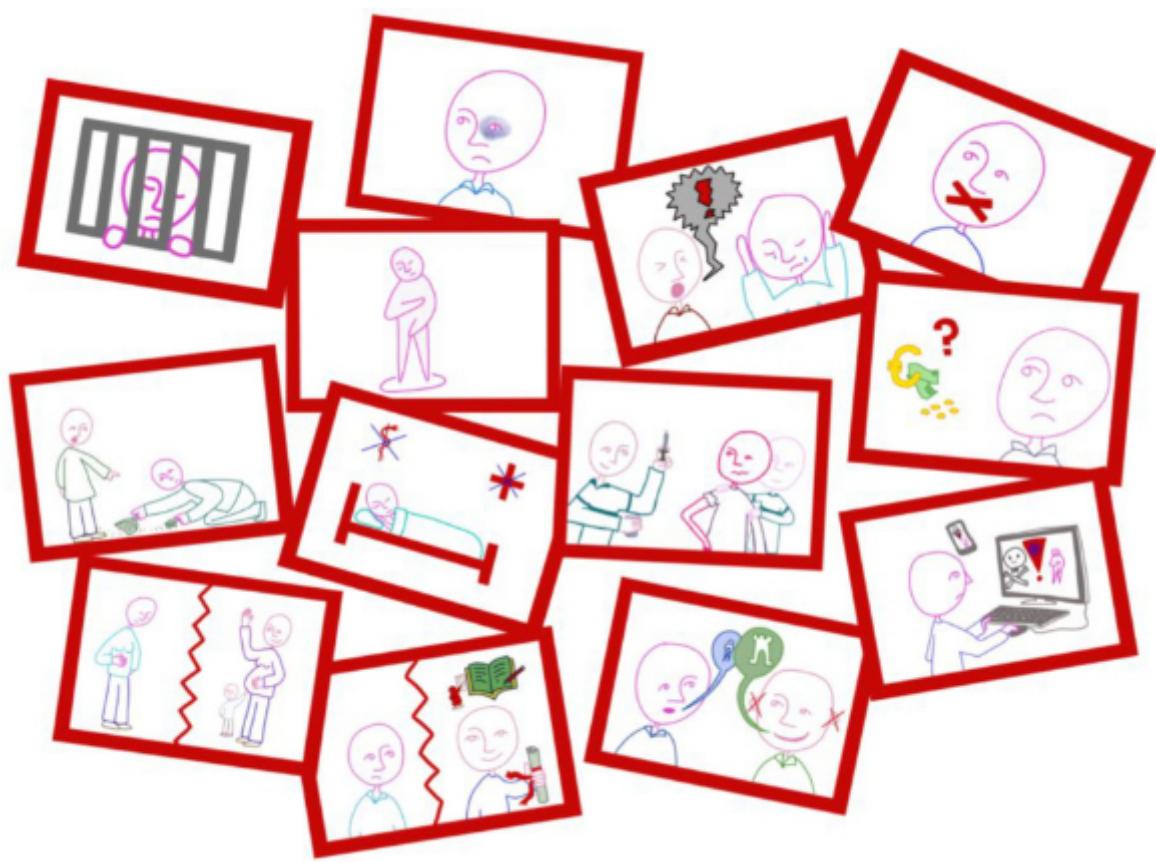
Inclusion Europe continued working with other European organisations to tackle violence against women and how to report it. We cooperated with women's organisations and victim support organisations to better tackle violence against women with intellectual disabilities.

Inclusion Europe was consulted by UN Women on sexual harassment and women and girls with disabilities and participated in the webinar on the Istanbul Convention in May 2020 held by EDF. <https://www.edf-feph.org/webinars/>

Inclusion Europe supported Autism Europe in drafting an easy-to-read version of the Istanbul Convention: [https://www.autismeurope.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Istanbul-Convention -Easy-to-Read\\_Final.pdf](https://www.autismeurope.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Istanbul-Convention -Easy-to-Read_Final.pdf)

In November 2020, Inclusion Europe and EDF organised a training on violence against women and the methodology on how to talk to women with intellectual disabilities about violence with self-advocate Senada Halilčević. <https://www.inclusion-europe.eu/webinar-on-ending-violence-against-women-and-girls-with-disabilities-in-the-european-union/>

In the context of the Life After Violence project, Inclusion Europe did a study on how women with intellectual disabilities cope with violence they experienced in institutions, after they have left them. Based on the methodology, Inclusion Europe developed several videos, funded by Open Society Foundations, about how to talk about violence. <https://www.inclusion-europe.eu/violence-against-women-disabilities-videos-2021/>



# Supporting women with intellectual disabilities

## – Easy to read



Women with **intellectual disabilities** are two to five times more likely to face violence than other women.



Inclusion Europe consulted **UN Women** on sexual harassment and women and girls with disabilities.



Inclusion Europe participated in the webinar on the **Istanbul Convention** in May 2020 organised by **EDF**.



Inclusion Europe helped **Autism Europe** write easy-to-read version of the Istanbul Convention.

**Read more about the topic:**

[https://www.autismeurope.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Istanbul-Convention\\_-Easy-to-Read\\_Final.pdf](https://www.autismeurope.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Istanbul-Convention_-Easy-to-Read_Final.pdf)



November 24th is an International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women.



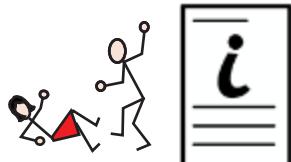
Inclusion Europe organised a webinar with the European Disability Forum.

The webinar is called “Ending violence against women and girls with disabilities in the **European Union**”.

Self-advocate Senada Halilčević talked about her experience as a woman with intellectual disabilities.

**Read more about the topic here:**

<https://www.inclusion-europe.eu/ending-violence-against-women-and-girls-with-disabilities-easy-to-read/>



Inclusion Europe made a report called “Life after Violence”.

The report talks about how to support women with intellectual disabilities who experienced violence.



Inclusion Europe developed several videos about the report and how to talk about violence.

**Read more about the topic here:**

<https://www.inclusion-europe.eu/videos-violence-against-women-and-girls-with-disabilities-easy-to-read/>

# Publications and videos

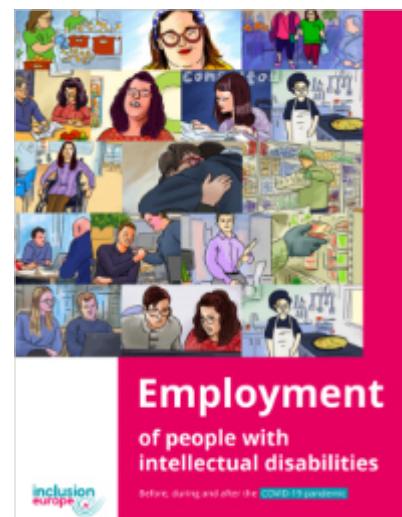
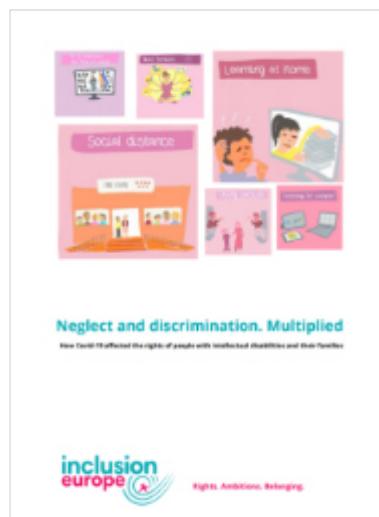
Inclusion Europe worked on many policy papers and documents such as the [Briefing on lack of data and housing 2020](#) and [Briefing Poverty of persons with intellectual disabilities and their families 2020](#).

In the COVID-19 report, Inclusion Europe analysed what happened to people with intellectual disabilities and their families during the Covid-19 crisis.

<https://www.inclusion-europe.eu/covid-report-2020/>

Employment and Covid-19 report is written by Inclusion Europe and Plena Inclusión under the My Talents For Diversity project. The report covers the state of employment of people with intellectual disabilities, before, during and after the COVID-19 pandemic. <https://www.inclusion-europe.eu/mtfd-report-covid-employment-2020/>

Inclusion Europe published a paper on Inclusive Education and Legal Capacity, highlighting the importance of inclusive education for the integration of people with disabilities and their legal capacity. <https://www.inclusion-europe.eu/inclusive-education-and-legal-capacity-paper-2020/>



# Europe for us

This newsletter is done in easy to read, and sent out in form of a downloadable file (as opposed to standard email), as many people with intellectual disabilities to download, print and share it with others in their countries.

Every issue of the newsletter is produced in 7 language versions: EN, FR, DE, ES, RO, HU, IT. Some of the translations are done by our members on their own initiative. 4 issues were published 2020.



# **Special report for the European Day of Persons with Disabilities (EDPD)**

The report highlighted what Inclusion Europe expects from the European Disability Strategy, as well as presenting an example by a person with intellectual disabilities about the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the lives of people with intellectual disabilities.

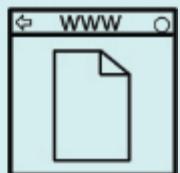
## **EU in easy-to-understand videos**

3 short videos:

- ▶ [what is the EU,](#)
- ▶ [what is the Charter of Fundamental Rights,](#)
- ▶ [why is EU important for people with intellectual disabilities](#)

The videos continue our series of easy-to-understand short videos, first explaining the CRPD. The videos contribute to a better understanding about the EU and its value to people with intellectual disabilities.

# 2020 in numbers



**134** articles published  
on our website  
**(54 in easy-to-read)**



**30** articles in the media  
about our work



**28** new videos



**FACEBOOK:**  
**10,300** followers



**TWITTER:**  
**10,651** followers



**LINKEDIN**  
**1,330** followers



**INSTAGRAM**  
**170** followers

# Our team

## The Board

The board of Inclusion Europe is elected at the General Assembly and is responsible for managing the affairs of Inclusion Europe.

(as of the end of 2020)



**Jyrki Pinomaa**  
President  
Finland



**László Bercse**  
Vice-President  
Hungary



**Bryndís Snæbjörnsdóttir**  
Vice-president  
Iceland



**Cristina Schiratti**  
Secretary General  
Italy



**Jeanne Nicklas-Faust**  
Treasurer  
Germany



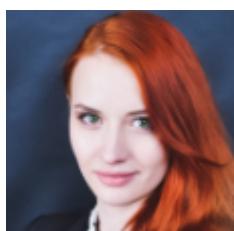
**Andreas Zehetner**  
Austria



**Mateja de Reya**  
Slovenia



**Gerhard Kowalski**  
France



**Anastasiya Zhyrmon**  
Belarus



**Theresa Shearer**  
Scotland



**Oswald Föllerer**  
Austria

## The Secretariat

Inclusion Europe's office:  
Avenue des art 3, 1210 Brussels, Belgium  
[secretariat@inclusion-europe.org](mailto:secretariat@inclusion-europe.org)

Staff (at the time of publication):

**Milan Šveřepa**, Director  
**Helen Portal**, Advocacy and policy officer  
**Josipa Friščić**, Communication officer  
**Sandra Marques**, Self-advocacy officer  
**Nina Vertot**, Finance officer  
**Soufiane El Amrani**, Easy-to-read and advocacy officer  
**Bárbara Marcondes**, EEG coordinator

# Financial report

The annual financial audit was conducted in accordance with the required standards and terms of reference by examining the financial statements. The auditor confirmed that the financial statements present correctly Inclusion Europe's net worth and the association's financial position.

The 2020 financial result of Inclusion Europe was a loss of € 10.593,31.

The reasons behind the loss are:

- Covid impact on activities, especially events. For example no income from conference fees. The loss of conference fees is about the same amount as the loss for the year 2020 alltogether.
- Lost membership fees from leaving members and members who could'nt pay the full amount in 2020.

The income of Inclusion Europe was again based on 3 pillars:

- Membership fees: 19% of our income. This corresponds with the budget and shows that our members are aware of the necessity to support Inclusion Europe activities by their regular contributions.
- Running costs grant from the European Union: This income represents almost 32% of our revenue.
- Project income: This item represents 42% of our revenue.

With the Covid impact on activities, there was less spending on travel, accommodation or catering and rent for conferences.

We would like to thank the European Commission, the Open Society Foundation and our members for their financial support.

Jeanne Nicklas-Faust, treasurer

Income 2020		
<b>Project Income</b>	€ 364,726.38	<b>49.31%</b>
<b>Commission Grant</b>	€ 235,969.77	<b>31.90%</b>
<b>Membership Fees</b>	€ 135,104.00	<b>18.26%</b>
<b>Other operating income</b>	€ 3,918.06	<b>0.53%</b>
<b>Total income</b>	€ 739,718.21	<b>100%</b>

Expenditure 2020		
<b>Staff</b>	€ 328,375.16	<b>43.77%</b>
<b>External Project staff</b>	€ 174,279.44	<b>23.23%</b>
<b>Travel and subsistence</b>	€ 20,226.64	<b>2.70%</b>
<b>Services</b>	€ 149,285.15	<b>19.90%</b>
<b>Equipment &amp; running cost</b>	€ 56,897.16	<b>7.58%</b>
<b>Other expenditure</b>	€ 21,247.97	<b>2.83%</b>
<b>Total expenditure</b>	€ 750,311.52	<b>100%</b>
<b>Result</b>	-€ 10,593.31	

# Our projects in 2020

Name of the project	Source of funding	Role of Inclusion Europe
Running cost grant	European Commission	Coordinator
Life after violence - Empowering women with intellectual disabilities	Open Society Foundations	Coordinator
My Talents for Diversity	Directorate-General for Justice	Coordinator
Promoting positive attitudes and evidence-based policy for inclusive education	Erasmus+ programme	Partner

# Our income and expenses in 2020 – Easy to read



Inclusion Europe lost quite a lot of money in 2020.

The loss was because of Covid and because of lower income from membership fees.

We received money from our members, from the European Commission and from the Open Society Foundation.



We spent money mostly on staff at Inclusion Europe.

We also spent money on services and office rent.



A professional came to check how Inclusion Europe manages its money.

This professional is called “the auditor”.



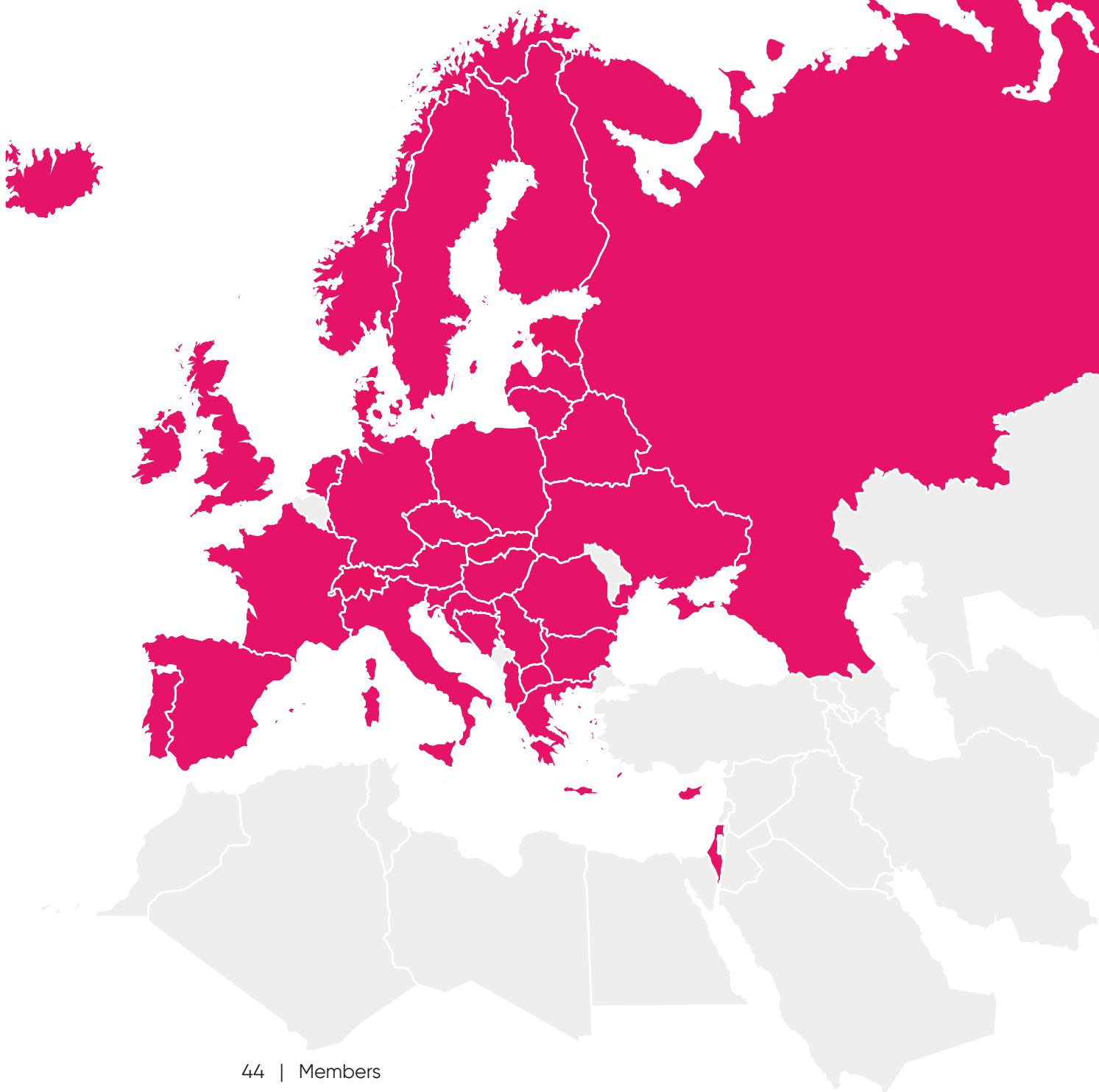
The auditor said Inclusion Europe managed money well in 2020.

# Members

Inclusion Europe has 78 member organisations in 39 European countries.

The European Platform of Self-Advocates has 18 members in 17 countries.

- Colored countries mark countries with an Inclusion Europe member.



# List of members

## Albania

### Help The Life Association

e-mail: [info@helptelife.org.al](mailto:info@helptelife.org.al)  
Website: [www.helptelife.org](http://www.helptelife.org)

## Austria

### Lebenshilfe Österreich

e-mail: [office@lebenshilfe.at](mailto:office@lebenshilfe.at)  
Website: [www.lebenshilfe.at](http://www.lebenshilfe.at)

### "Selbstvertretungsbeirat" (Self-advocacy council) of Lebenshilfe Österreich

e-mail: [office@lebenshilfe.at](mailto:office@lebenshilfe.at)  
Website: [www.lebenshilfe.at](http://www.lebenshilfe.at)

### Selbstvertretungszentrum für Menschen mit Lernschwierigkeiten

e-mail: [oselbstvertretungszentrum@wuk.at](mailto:oselbstvertretungszentrum@wuk.at)  
Website: [www.svz.wuk.at](http://www.svz.wuk.at)

### Lebenshilfe Wien

e-mail: [office@lebenshilfe.wien](mailto:office@lebenshilfe.wien)  
Website: [www.lebenshilfe.wien](http://www.lebenshilfe.wien)

## Belarus

### BelAPDliMI

e-mail: [info@belapdi.org](mailto:info@belapdi.org)  
Website: [www.belapdi.org](http://www.belapdi.org)

## Bosnia and Herzegovina

### Association Sumero

e-mail: [info@sumero.ba](mailto:info@sumero.ba)  
Website: [www.sumero.ba](http://www.sumero.ba)

## Bulgaria

### BAPID

E-mail: [bapid@bapid.com](mailto:bapid@bapid.com)  
Website: [www.bapid.com](http://www.bapid.com)

### National Association of Resource Teachers

Tel.: +359-02-878 0234  
Website: [www.narubg.org](http://www.narubg.org)

## Croatia

### Udruga za promicanje inkvizije

e-mail: [inkluzija@inkluzija.hr](mailto:inkluzija@inkluzija.hr)  
Website: [www.inkluzija.hr](http://www.inkluzija.hr)

### Hrvatski savez udruga osoba s intelektualnim teškoćama

e-mail: [savezosit@savezosit.hr](mailto:savezosit@savezosit.hr)  
Website: [www.savezosit.hr](http://www.savezosit.hr)

### Udruga za samozastupanje

e-mail: [kontakt@samozaстupanje.hr](mailto:kontakt@samozaстupanje.hr)  
Website: [www.samozaстupanje.hr](http://www.samozaстupanje.hr)

## Cyprus

### Pancyprian Parents Association for People with Mental Handicap

e-mail: [pasygoka@cytanet.com.cy](mailto:pasygoka@cytanet.com.cy)

## Czechia

### Inclusion Czechia (SPMP)

e-mail: [spmp@spmpcr.cz](mailto:spmp@spmpcr.cz)  
Website: [www.spmpcr.cz](http://www.spmpcr.cz)

### Sebeobhájci Praha

e-mail: [jan.siska@pedf.cuni.cz](mailto:jan.siska@pedf.cuni.cz)

### Rytmus

e-mail: [pavlab@rytmus.org](mailto:pavlab@rytmus.org)  
Website: [www.rytmus.org](http://www.rytmus.org)

## Denmark

### Landesforeningen LEV

e-mail: [lev@lev.dk](mailto:lev@lev.dk)  
Website: [www.lev.dk](http://www.lev.dk)

## Estonia

### Vaimukad

e-mail: [evpit@vaimukad.ee](mailto:evpit@vaimukad.ee)  
Website: [www.vaimukad.ee](http://www.vaimukad.ee)

### EVPIT Self-Advocacy Group

e-mail: [evpit@vaimukad.ee](mailto:evpit@vaimukad.ee)

## England (United Kingdom)

### Learning Disability England

e-mail: [info@LDEngland.org.uk](mailto:info@LDEngland.org.uk)  
Website:  
[www.learningdisabilityengland.org.uk](http://www.learningdisabilityengland.org.uk)

## Faroe Islands

### Javni

e-mail: [javni@javni.fo](mailto:javni@javni.fo)  
Website: [www.javni.fo](http://www.javni.fo)

## Finland

### Kehitysvammaisten Tukiliitto r.y.

e-mail: [toimisto@tukiliitto.fi](mailto:toimisto@tukiliitto.fi)  
Website: [www.tukiliitto.fi](http://www.tukiliitto.fi)

### FDUV

e-mail: [fduv@fduv.fi](mailto:fduv@fduv.fi)  
Website: [www.fduv.fi](http://www.fduv.fi)

### Steg för Steg

e-mail: [fduv@fduv.fi](mailto:fduv@fduv.fi)  
Website: [www.stegforsteg.fi](http://www.stegforsteg.fi)

## France

### UNAPEI

e-mail: [public@unapei.org](mailto:public@unapei.org)  
Website: [www.unapei.org](http://www.unapei.org)

### Nous Aussi

e-mail: [nous-aussi@unapei.org](mailto:nous-aussi@unapei.org)  
Website: [www.nousaussi.org](http://www.nousaussi.org)

### Les Papillons Blancs de Dunkerque

e-mail: [contact@papillonsblancs-dunkerque.fr](mailto:contact@papillonsblancs-dunkerque.fr)  
Website: [www.papillonsblancs-dunkerque.fr](http://www.papillonsblancs-dunkerque.fr)

### Association "Les Jeunes Handicapés"

Website: [www.ajh.fr](http://www.ajh.fr)

## Germany

### Lebenshilfe

e-mail:  
[bundesvereinigung@lebenshilfe.de](mailto:bundesvereinigung@lebenshilfe.de)  
Website: [www.lebenshilfe.de](http://www.lebenshilfe.de)

### Der Rat behinderter Menschen der Bundesvereinigung Lebenshilfe

e-mail: [ulrich.niehoff@lebenshilfe.de](mailto:ulrich.niehoff@lebenshilfe.de)

### Lebenshilfe Schleswig-Holstein

e-mail: [info@lebenshilfe-sh.de](mailto:info@lebenshilfe-sh.de)  
Website: [www.lebenshilfe-sh.de](http://www.lebenshilfe-sh.de)

## Greece

### POSGAMEA

e-mail: [posgamea@otenet.gr](mailto:posgamea@otenet.gr)  
Website: [www.posgamea.gr](http://www.posgamea.gr)

## Hungary

### ÉFOÉSZ

e-mail: [efoesz@efoesz.hu](mailto:efoesz@efoesz.hu)  
Website: [www.efoesz.hu](http://www.efoesz.hu)

### ÉFOÉSZ Self-Advocacy Group

e-mail: [efoesz@efoesz.hu](mailto:efoesz@efoesz.hu)  
Website: [www.efoesz.hu](http://www.efoesz.hu)

## Iceland

### Landssamtökin Þroskahjálp

e-mail: [throskahjalp@throskahjalp.is](mailto:throskahjalp@throskahjalp.is)  
Website: [www.throskahjalp.is](http://www.throskahjalp.is)

## Ireland

### Inclusion Ireland

e-mail: [info@inclusionireland.ie](mailto:info@inclusionireland.ie)  
Website: [www.inclusionireland.ie](http://www.inclusionireland.ie)

## Israel

### AKIM Israel

e-mail: [info@akimisrael.com](mailto:info@akimisrael.com)  
Website: [www.akim.org.il](http://www.akim.org.il)

## Italy

### Anffas Italy

e-mail: [nazionale@anffas.net](mailto:nazionale@anffas.net)  
Website: [www.anffas.net](http://www.anffas.net)

## Latvia

### Rupju Berns

Website: [www.rupjuberns.lv](http://www.rupjuberns.lv)

### Martin RULLIS

Latvian Self-Advocacy Movement

## Lithuania

### VILTIS

e-mail: [viltis@viltis.lt](mailto:viltis@viltis.lt)  
Website: [www.viltis.lt](http://www.viltis.lt)

## Luxemburg

### APEMH

e-mail: [apemh@apemh.lu](mailto:apemh@apemh.lu)  
Website: [www.apemh.lu](http://www.apemh.lu)

### Ligue HMC

e-mail: [direction-secretariat@ligue-hmc.lu](mailto:direction-secretariat@ligue-hmc.lu)  
Website: [www.ligue-hmc.lu](http://www.ligue-hmc.lu)

## Malta

### INSPIRE – The Foundation for Inclusion

e-mail: [info@inspire.org.mt](mailto:info@inspire.org.mt)  
Website: [www.inspire.org.mt](http://www.inspire.org.mt)

### Malta Federation of Organisations of Persons with Disability (MFOPD)

e-mail: [mfopdmalta@gmail.com](mailto:mfopdmalta@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.mfopd.org](http://www.mfopd.org)

### Movement in Favour of Rights for Persons with Disability – Down Syndrome Association

e-mail:  
[marthesemugliette@gmail.com](mailto:marthesemugliette@gmail.com)

### National Parents' Society of Persons with Disability

e-mail: [npspd@gmail.com](mailto:npspd@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.npspd.org](http://www.npspd.org)

## Netherlands

### Inclusie Nederland

e-mail: [info@inclusienederland.nl](mailto:info@inclusienederland.nl)  
Website: [www.inclusienederland.nl](http://www.inclusienederland.nl)

### Vereniging LFB

e-mail: [info@lfb.nu](mailto:info@lfb.nu)  
Website: [www.lfb.nu](http://www.lfb.nu)

### Ieder(in)

e-mail: [post@iederin.nl](mailto:post@iederin.nl)  
Website: [wwwiederin.nl](http://wwwiederin.nl)

## North Macedonia

### Republic Center for Helping Persons with Mental Handicap

e-mail: [poraka@mol.com.mk](mailto:poraka@mol.com.mk)  
Website: [www.poraka.org.mk](http://www.poraka.org.mk)

### Centre for Helping Persons with Mental Handicap (Poraka Negotino)

E-mail: [negdailycentre@yahoo.com](mailto:negdailycentre@yahoo.com)  
Website: [www.porakanegotino.org.mk](http://www.porakanegotino.org.mk)

## Norway

### NFU

e-mail: [post@nfunorge.org](mailto:post@nfunorge.org)  
Website: [www.nfunorge.org](http://www.nfunorge.org)

### NFU Self-Advocacy Group

e-mail: [helene@nfunorge.org](mailto:helene@nfunorge.org)

## Poland

### PSONI

e-mail: [zg@psouu.org.pl](mailto:zg@psouu.org.pl)  
Website: [www.psoni.org.pl](http://www.psoni.org.pl)

## Portugal

### FENACERCI

e-mail : [fenacerci@fenacerci.pt](mailto:fenacerci@fenacerci.pt)  
Website: [www.fenacerci.pt](http://www.fenacerci.pt)

## Romania

### Federatia Incluziune

e-mail:  
[incluziune\\_romania@yahoo.com](mailto:incluziune_romania@yahoo.com)

### Ceva de spus

e-mail: [contact@cevadespus.ro](mailto:contact@cevadespus.ro)  
Website: [www.cevadespus.ro](http://www.cevadespus.ro)

### Pentru Voi

e-mail: [pentruvoi@pentruvoi.ro](mailto:pentruvoi@pentruvoi.ro)  
Website: [www.pentruvoi.ro](http://www.pentruvoi.ro)

## Russia

### Perspektiva

e-mail: [office@perspektiva-inva.ru](mailto:office@perspektiva-inva.ru)  
Website: [www.perspektiva-inva.ru](http://www.perspektiva-inva.ru)

## Scotland (United Kingdom)

### ENABLE Scotland

e-mail: [enabledirect@enable.org.uk](mailto:enabledirect@enable.org.uk)  
Website: [www.enable.org.uk](http://www.enable.org.uk)

### ENABLE ACE COMMITTEE

e-mail: [enable@enable.org.uk](mailto:enable@enable.org.uk)  
Website: [www.enable.org.uk](http://www.enable.org.uk)

## Serbia

### SAPI

e-mail: [info@sapi.rs](mailto:info@sapi.rs)  
Website: [www.sapi.rs](http://www.sapi.rs)

### Serbian association for self-advocacy

Tel.: +381-11 361 01 50  
e-mail: [info@sapi.rs](mailto:info@sapi.rs)  
Website: [www.sapi.rs](http://www.sapi.rs)

## Slovakia

**Inclusion Slovakia (ZPMP v SR)**  
e-mail: [zpmpvsr@zpmpvsr.sk](mailto:zpmpvsr@zpmpvsr.sk)  
Website: [www.zpmpvsr.sk](http://www.zpmpvsr.sk)

## Slovenia

**ZVEZA SOŽITJE**  
e-mail: [info@zveza-sozitje.si](mailto:info@zveza-sozitje.si)  
Website: [www.zveza-sozitje.si](http://www.zveza-sozitje.si)

**Center for training, work and protection Dolfka Boštjančič, Draga**  
e-mail: [center.draga.ig@center-db.si](mailto:center.draga.ig@center-db.si)

## Spain

**Plena Inclusión**  
e-mail: [info@plena inclusion.org](mailto:info@plena inclusion.org)  
Website: [www.plena inclusion.org](http://www.plena inclusion.org)

**GADIR – Grupo de Apoyo a la Dirección**  
**Plena Inclusión**  
e-mail: [info@plena inclusion.org](mailto:info@plena inclusion.org)  
Website: [www.plena inclusion.org](http://www.plena inclusion.org)

**Som Fundació Catalana Tutelar**  
e-mail: [informacio@somfundacio.org](mailto:informacio@somfundacio.org)  
Website: [www.somfundacio.org](http://www.somfundacio.org)

## Sweden

### FUB

e-mail: [fub@fub.se](mailto:fub@fub.se)  
Website: [www.fub.se](http://www.fub.se)

### Inre Ringen Sverige

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## Switzerland

### INSIEME

e-mail: [sekretariat@insieme.ch](mailto:sekretariat@insieme.ch)  
Website: [www.insieme.ch](http://www.insieme.ch)

## Ukraine

**All-Ukrainian NGO Coalition for Persons with Intellectual Disability**  
Email: [vgo.coalition@gmail.com](mailto:vgo.coalition@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.inteldisabilities-coalition.com.ua](http://www.inteldisabilities-coalition.com.ua)

## European Organisations

**ECCE – European Cooperation in Anthroposophical Curative Education and Social Therapy**  
e-mail: [info@ecce.eu](mailto:info@ecce.eu)  
Website: [www.ecce.eu](http://www.ecce.eu)

**Down Syndrome Education International**  
e-mail: [enquiries@downsend.org](mailto:enquiries@downsend.org)  
Website: [www.dseinternational.org](http://www.dseinternational.org)

**Special Olympics Europe Euroasia**  
e-mail: [mbraycich@specialolympics.org](mailto:mbraycich@specialolympics.org)  
Website: [www.specialolympics.eu](http://www.specialolympics.eu)

# Easy-to-read dictionary



## Accessible

Something that is easy to use for people with disabilities.

Such as:

- Ramps to get into a building.
- Information in easy-to-read.
- Information in sign language.



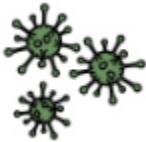
## Autism Europe

An international association for the rights of people with autism.



## Commissioner at the European Commission

A Commissioner is a person who is responsible for a field of work at the European Commission and manages a lot of people.



## COVID-19

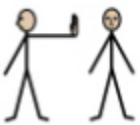
A virus that was first detected in 2019.

It can make a lot of people very sick  
and has caused the pandemic of 2020.



## Deinstitutionalisation

- The process of changing the way institutions work for a more social, community – life way of living.
- The release of a person who lives in an institution.



## Discrimination

Discrimination means that you are treated worse than others or that you do not get the chances you deserve.

It is discrimination when it happens because of your disability.

It can also happen to other people.

For example, people who have a different skin colour.

Or older people.

## Easy-to-read

Easy to read is information that is written in a simple way so that people with intellectual disabilities can understand.

It is important to use simple words and sentences.

If there are words that are difficult to understand, an explanation is provided.

The text needs to be clear to see, for example, black writing on a white background is good.

It needs to be well-spaced.

Easy-to-read often uses pictures to explain what the text talks about.

Someone with an intellectual disability needs to check the information is easy to understand.



Easy-to-read documents often have this logo, so it is easier to find them.

There are rules on how easy-to-read should be done.



The European Disability Forum is an organisation of people with disabilities in Europe.

In short, we call it EDF.

EDF was created by people with disabilities in 1996.

EDF works to protect the rights of people with disabilities in Europe.

EDF is based in Brussels in Belgium.

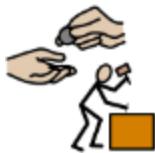


Educate means to teach.

It means to make sure people have access to training so they can learn new skills.



ÉFOÉSZ is an association of organisations that care and support the rehabilitation of people with intellectual disability in Hungary.



## Employment

Employment is when a person works and gets paid for their work.

It is usually based on a contract between the worker and the person who provides the job.

This person is the employer.



## EPSA

The European Platform of Self-Advocates is made up of organisations of self-advocates from different countries in Europe.

We call it EPSA for short.

It is a part of Inclusion Europe.



## European Commission

The European Commission works with the European Parliament.

The European Commission suggests laws for the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union to discuss.

It also makes sure that the laws  
that have been decided upon  
are being followed by the member states.



## European Parliament

The European Parliament is a place where  
important decisions of the European Union are made.

For example: laws.

The Members of the European Parliament (in short, MEPs)  
make these decisions and speak for all the people  
who live in the European Union.

Every five years,  
the people who live in the European Union  
vote for their country's MEPs.



## European Union

The European Union (in short, EU)  
is a group of 28 countries.

We call these countries "member states".

They have joined together  
to be stronger politically and economically.

The EU makes laws on many important things for the people who live in those countries.

The EU makes laws in different areas.

Some examples are:

- Laws to protect the environment.
- Laws for farmers.
- Laws to protect consumers.

A consumer is someone who buys things.

The EU also makes laws that are important for people with disabilities.

It also made a law that gives people with disabilities more rights when they are travelling.

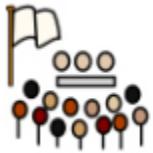
The EU also gives money to its member states.

Some of this money is used for people with disabilities.



## European Pilar of Social Rights

The European Pilar of Social Rights makes sure people in the European Union have new and more effective rights.



## Government

A government is a group of people that make decisions on how to run a country.

For example,

- about where the money is spent,
- about public transport,
- about schools,
- about hospitals.

Every few years there are elections to vote for a new government.



## Guardianship

Guardianship allows some people to make life choices for others.

The person who makes choices for you is your guardian.

Your guardian can decide things for you, like where you live.

Sometimes, people under guardianship are not allowed to vote, get married, or take care of their kids.



## Healthcare

Healthcare is the services given to someone who is ill or who needs to take care of their health.

Healthcare involves going to the doctor, getting medicine and getting support for health problems of the body or the mind.



## Inclusion Europe

Inclusion Europe is an organisation for people with intellectual disabilities and their families.

We fight for their equal rights and inclusion in Europe.

We also want to make a difference to the laws in Europe.

We started in 1988.

We have 79 members in 39 European countries.

We are based in Brussels in Belgium.

Inclusive education, training, employment  
Inclusive education, training or employment means that people with intellectual disabilities can learn and work together with other people without disabilities.



## Institutions

Institutions are places where people with intellectual disabilities live with other people with intellectual disabilities.

They live apart from other people.

This is what we call “segregated”.

Sometimes this happens against their will.

People who live in institutions have to follow the rules of the institution and cannot decide for themselves.



## Intellectual disability

If you have an intellectual disability, that means it is more difficult for you to understand information and learn new skills than it is for other people.

This makes some parts of life harder.

People with intellectual disabilities often need support in learning or at work.

Intellectual disability often starts before you are an adult.

It affects you for your whole life.

There are things that can make life easier for people with intellectual disabilities.

For example, information in easy-to-read language.

Some people say learning disabilities instead of intellectual disabilities.



## Istanbul Convention

A document signed by many countries about the protection of women against domestic violence.



## Lockdown

A lockdown happens when there is a need to control a situation that can be harmful.

During a pandemic like the one of COVID-19, the countries have lockdowns to stop the spread of the virus.



## MEPs

The members of the European Parliament are the politicians who sit in the European Parliament.

We call them MEPs for short.



## MTFD

“My Talents. For Diversity.” is a project that supports the employment of people with intellectual disabilities.

We call it MTFD for short.



## NGO

Non-governmental organizations, or NGOs are generally defined as nonprofit and independent of governmental influence.



## Online Schooling

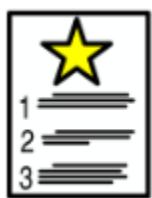
Online schooling is a way for students to attend their classes using a computer or another device to connect to the internet.

These classes happen with the help of online applications for meetings or online classrooms.



## Petition

A request made for something desired, especially a respectful or humble request, as to a superior or to one of those in authority.



## Policies

Actions or practices of governments and institutions.

Policies are trying to make the situation better.

Policies can be a set of rules or guidelines to follow in or to achieve a specific goal.

Rights of people with disabilities  
A right is a rule that makes sure people are protected and they can have and do what they need to live a life with respect and safety.

Rights of people with disabilities are rules that are about the lives of people with disabilities.

For example, the right to get an education, or the right to live.



## Self-Advocacy

Self-advocacy is when people with intellectual disabilities speak up for themselves.

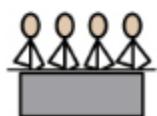
These people are called self-advocates.



## Segregation

Segregation is when someone is set apart from others for an unfair reason.

For example, because of their disability.



## Steering Group

A steering group is a group of people who manage a project.



## United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (in short, UN CRPD) is an important document.

It tries to make sure that the rights of people with disabilities are respected.



## UN Women

UN Women is the United Nations organisation that works for gender equality.



## Vaccine

A vaccine is a substance that is injected inside a person's body with a syringe.

A vaccine helps the person's body create antibodies and protects them from getting sick.



## Vote

Voting means choosing the politicians who represent us and make decisions for us.

You can vote in different areas.

For example:

- in your town or city  
when you elect a new mayor in your country

- when you elect a new president or at the European elections,
- when you choose the new Members of the European Parliament (MEPs).



## Working conditions

Working conditions is the working environment and the circumstances of the job.

This includes the working hours, legal rights and responsibilities.

Working conditions also include the work that a person does with their body or their mind.

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## Everyone

**Everyone has the right to learn.**

According to article 24 of the UN CRPD\*, State parties must take steps to ensure that all people with disabilities have access to quality education.

\* Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities



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Number 2 / 2020



## Europe for us

**Impact of the Coronavirus on the lives of people with intellectual disabilities and their families**



This publication is funded by the European Union.

Technology for everyone?

