



e-INCLUSION

ICT for an Inclusive Society

Riga 11-13 June 2006

No one left behind



Improving the quality of life of people with disabilities in Europe: from e-accessibility to full participation and inclusion

No one left behind



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The Council of Europe : 46 member states, 800 millions Europeans, about 200 legally binding European treaties or conventions:

- Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental freedoms:
 - e.g. Article 10: The right to receive and impart information.
- European Social Charter revised:
 - e.g. Article 15, par. 3: The right of persons with disabilities to independence, social integration and participation in the life of the community, in particular through measures aiming to overcome barriers to communication and mobility, and enabling access to transport , housing, cultural activities and leisure.



**In our processes towards reaching an improved accessibility, greater participation, full inclusion of all people without discrimination –
where are we now?**





New Technologies

- Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)
- Assistive technologies
- New technological developments in all areas of life – developments based on Universal Design / Design for All principles

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Council of Europe Disability Action Plan 2006-2015

- 15 Key Action Lines
- Cross-cutting aspects
- Role of ICT: from e-accessibility to full participation and inclusion

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Impact of ICT on the quality of life of people with disabilities

- Strengths
- Weaknesses
- Opportunities
- Threats



Principles, criteria and conditions for implementing new technologies

“Getting information from the Internet ...
is like trying to get a glass of water from
Niagara Falls...”



Principles, criteria and conditions for implementing new technologies

- **Availability:** “How and where can I get it?”
- **Accessibility:** “Can I get in touch with it?”
- **Ease of Use:** “Can I use it? Is it functional, practical, understandable, user-friendly and applicable?”
- **Affordability:** “Can I afford it?”



Principles, criteria and conditions for implementing new technologies (contd.)

- **Awareness:** “Do I know of its existence and potential?”
- **Appropriateness and attractiveness:** “Does it suit my needs?”
- **Adaptability:** “Can it be altered to suit my needs?”
- **Compatibility:** “Can I use it together with the technical aids I already rely on?”



Universal Design

Design for All,
Accessibility for All,
Barrier-free Design,
Inclusive Design,
Integral Accessibility...

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Conclusions:

e-Voting → e-Participation → e-Inclusion
e-Tourism
e-Commerce
e-Dating



e-INCLUSION

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Ministerial Conference
Riga 11-13 June 2006

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