

# WORK FORUM ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UN CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES IN THE EU AND THE MEMBER STATES

22-23 October 2014

*Charlemagne building, Rue de la Loi 170, B-1049 Brussels*

## DRAFT PROGRAMME

<b>Day One - 22 October 2014</b>	
13:45 - 14:30	Participants' registration & welcome coffee
<b>14:30 - 15:00</b>	<b>Conference opening</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maria-Luisa Cabral, Head of Unit for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, European Commission</li> <li>• Alfredo Ferrante, Head of Unit for Policies for Persons with Disabilities, Ministry of Labour and Social Policies, on behalf of the Italian Presidency of the Council of the EU</li> <li>• Donata Vivanti, Vice-President of the European Disability Forum</li> </ul>
<b>15:00 - 18:00</b>	<b>Panel 1: Implementation, monitoring and protection of Article 12 of the Convention (Equal recognition before the law)</b>
	<p><i>Moderator: Eilíonóir Flynn, Deputy Director &amp; Senior Lecturer, NUI Galway, Centre for Disability Law &amp; Policy</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The normative requirements of Article 12 of the Convention: Theresia Degener, Vice-Chair of the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities</li> <li>• An overview of the legal situation and practice in Europe: Almudena Castro-Girona Martínez, Council of the Notariats of the European Union and Director of Aequitas – Spanish Notaries Foundation</li> <li>• Implementing the right to equal recognition before the law in the EU Member States: Štefan Čulík, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Czech Republic</li> </ul>
<b>16:00 - 16:30</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experience of monitoring frameworks in promoting, protecting and monitoring the right to equal recognition before the law: Cathy Asante (Scottish Human Rights Commission) and Colin Caughey (Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission)</li> <li>• Perspectives and contribution of disabled people and their organisations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Support in decision-making - challenges and practical models: Maureen Piggot, President of Inclusion Europe</li> <li>○ Personal experience by Angela Bachiller, Councillor for Social Welfare and Family Valladolid City Council</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>17:00 – 18:00</b>	<b>Debate</b>
<b>19:30 - 22:00</b>	<b>Dinner offered by the European Commission</b> ( <i>THON Hôtel EU, Rue de La Loi 75, 1000 Brussels</i> )
<b>Day Two - 23 October 2014</b>	
<b>09:00 - 12:00</b>	<b>Panel 2: Implementation, monitoring and protection of Article 13 of the Convention (Access to justice)</b>
	<p><i>Moderator: John Horan, Barrister, Cloister</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The normative requirements of Article 13: Damjan Tatic, member of the CRPD Committee</li> <li>• EU initiatives to improve access to justice: Olivier Tell, Head of Unit, Procedural criminal law, DG Justice, European Commission</li> </ul>
<b>10:15 - 10:45</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experience of monitoring frameworks in promoting, protecting and monitoring the right to equal access to justice for persons with disabilities: Véronique Ghesquière, Head of disability service, Belgian Interfederal Centre for Equal Opportunities</li> <li>• Perspectives and contribution of disabled people organisations: Gábor Gombos [title to be confirmed]</li> <li>• Perspective of service providers: Patricia Scherer, FEGAPEI (Fédération nationale des associations gestionnaires au service des personnes handicapées et fragiles)</li> </ul>
<b>[Time]</b>	<b>Debate</b>
<b>12:00 - 13:30</b>	<b>Lunch in the Charlemagne conference building</b>

<b>13:30 - 16:00</b>	<b>Panel 3: The monitoring frameworks of the Convention</b>
	<p><i>Moderator: Nepheli Yatropoulos, member of the Board of Equinet - European Network of Equality Bodies</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The requirements of Article 33.2, the Paris Principles and other critical factors: tbc</li> <li>• State of play of implementation of article 33.2: in the Member States and in the EU <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mads Pedersen, Special Advisor, Danish Institute for Human Rights</li> <li>○ The experience of the European Ombudsman in promoting, protecting and monitoring the Convention at EU level: Astrid Eichstädt, Disability Rights Expert, European Ombudsman Office</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Perspectives of civil society and disabled people organisations: Marica MIRIĆ, Director of the Croatian Union of Associations of Persons with Disabilities (SOIH)</li> </ul>
<b>14:30 – 16:00</b>	<b>Debate</b>
<b>16:00 - 16:15</b>	<b>Closing remarks by Maria-Luisa Cabral, Head of Unit for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, European Commission</b>