



European Commission



A meeting about the rights of people with disabilities across Europe

What happened at the meeting



**European Day of Persons with Disabilities 2016.
10 years of the UN Convention on the Rights
of Persons with Disabilities.**



Who are we?



We are the **European Commission** and the **European Disability Forum**.

What is this information about?



There was a big meeting on 29 and 30 November 2016.

It was in a country called Belgium.



People from different countries in Europe came to the meeting.

The meeting was about the rights of people with disabilities in Europe.

This information tells you the main things that people said at the meeting.



Day 1 of the meeting

29 November

The main things that people said



There is a document about the rights of all people with disabilities in the world and mainly in Europe.

It is called the **UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**.



The European Union and most countries in Europe have agreed to do what the document says.

The European Union is a group of countries that work together to make Europe better.



The document is 10 years old.



It is great to have the document.

It is already making the world better for people with disabilities.

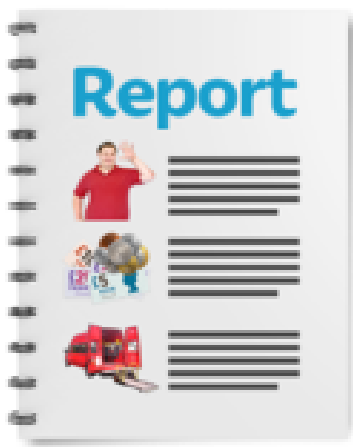


The European Union used the document to make a big plan.



The plan is about the rights of people with disabilities in Europe.

The plan is called the **European Disability Strategy 2010 to 2020**.



There will be a report in 2017
about how the plan is going so far.



There have been big money problems
in the world.

This has caused problems for
people with disabilities.



For example, less money is being spent
on support for people with disabilities.



There is a project to look at
making Europe fairer for everyone.

For example, making sure that
people have a job or the money
and support they need.

The project is called the
European Pillar of Social Rights.

The project is important. But it could do more for people with disabilities.

For example, it could do more to stop people with disabilities being poor.



It is important for people to have their say about the project.



People with disabilities should always get their human rights.



Human rights are rights that everyone in the world has, like the right to:

- go to school
- have a family
- be safe



There are more plans and laws in Europe about the rights of people with disabilities.

For example, there will be a new law called the **European Accessibility Act**.



The law will help make things easier for everyone to use.

Like transport, phones and computers.



But it can still be hard for people with disabilities to get what they need.

And countries do not always make sure that people with disabilities get their human rights.



It is hard for many people with disabilities to get a job.

Some work is happening to change this. But more needs to be done.



For example, there should be:

- more training for people with disabilities to help them get a job



- more support for different people with disabilities to work

For example, people who are deaf and blind and women with disabilities



Everything should be easy for people with disabilities to use.

Like buildings, transport, information, shops and services.



And it should be easy for people with disabilities to travel around Europe.



More work will be done on this.

For example, there will be new rules and more training for travel staff.



There is a card called the **EU Disability Card**.

It will help people with disabilities to travel in Europe and get things they need.

Some countries will try the card out first to see how it works.

Day 2 of the meeting

30 November



The main things that people said

It is very important for people with disabilities to live in the community with everyone else.



People with disabilities should not be left out.

They should be able to join in with everything.



It is important to make sure that:

- people with disabilities live in the community

They should not live in homes far away from other people



It is important to make sure that:

- people with disabilities can make their own choices



- people with disabilities can have a say in different plans and laws



We need to think more about:

- the rights of women with disabilities
- how to stop bad things happening to women with disabilities,



Women with disabilities should have the same choices as other women.

For example, they should be able to have relationships or children if they want.



The European Union is doing lots of work on the rights of women.



It is also important to think about the future.



For example, what needs to be done after the year 2020.

There could be a plan about this.

The European Union can help with all of this work.