



# **European Disability Rights Agenda**

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# EDF and the 2020 consultations

- June: EDF published its position paper
- July: EDF and its members participated to the exploratory consultations with the Commission
- October - November: EDF and its members participated to the thematic consultations
- November 2020: EDF provided inputs to the Roadmap of the future Strategy

**EDF warmly welcomes the broad scope adopted by the European Commission & commitments made by Commissioner for Equality Helena Dalli**

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# EDF Position on the Future European Disability Rights Agenda 2021-30

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# Ensuring that persons with disabilities

1. have the right to a **decent standard of living**, with access to inclusive education, social inclusion and living in the community, employment and social protection (article 9 and 151 TFUE)
2. are **protected from discrimination** in all fields, regardless of their age, gender, sexual orientation (article 10 and 19 TFEU) and equal opportunities.
3. have the same right to **freedom of movement**, to live, work, travel in the EU, and to vote and stand for EU elections, as all other EU citizens (article 21 Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFUE))

In addition:

- The EU should assume a **global leadership** role in promoting the rights of persons with disabilities at the UN level and in all its international cooperation strategies, policies and programmes, including humanitarian action.
  - Ensure it is compliant with the CRPD, as a public administration
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# **Cross-cutting issues**

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- Full participation of persons with disabilities through their representative organisations
  - Cover all CRPD articles & 2015 CRPD Committee Concluding Observations
  - Take an intersectional approach recognising multiple & compounded discrimination on the basis of sex, age, race or ethnic origin, religion or belief, sexual orientation and gender, migration status
  - Address COVID-19 impact
  - CRPD awareness raising and technical capacities of EU officials
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# **CRPD Governance**

- Create a CRPD unit (focal point) in DG for Justice and Consumers
  - Place Disability Focal Points in each EU institution (and in each DG), agency and body and all external EU delegations
  - Create a “Disability Rights Committee” bringing together the Disability Focal Points of all EU institutions
  - Set up an interinstitutional coordination mechanism between the Commission, Parliament and Council
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# Monitoring and evaluation

- CRPD independent monitoring framework: Independent budget and secretariat
  - Strategy for monitoring and evaluation of this agenda:
    - Annual progress report
    - Mid-term review and independent final evaluation
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# **Legal and policy considerations**

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- Improve disaggregated data collected by EUROSTAT & research data, including in institutional care and closed settings
  - Conduct a cross-cutting and comprehensive review of EU legislation
  - Modify the impact assessment guidelines to ensure CRPD compliance
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# Funding

- Disability mainstreaming in the EU budget- measures to ensure inclusion, accessibility, access to funding for capacity building and social inclusion
  - Clarify which parts of the EU budget will be used to implement the strategy
  - Define what the EU will not fund- eg inaccessible buildings, transport, infrastructure or segregating institutions
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# **Thematic areas**

# Equality

- anti-discrimination legislation protecting persons with disabilities against discrimination in all fields
  - Including persons with disabilities in all equality initiatives- gender equality, LGBTI, Roma, Migration, youth, child rights, and aging
  - Include persons with disabilities from different disadvantaged groups in disability policies
  - **Ensure the right to vote in the next EU elections**
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# Womens rights and gender equality

- Include the rights of women with disabilities in the EU gender equality strategy- including through ensuring participation in the Advisory Committee on Equal opportunities and the work of the European Institute for Gender equality
  - Data collection and research on women with disabilities
  - Accession of the EU to the Istanbul convention and adoption of measures to combat gender-based violence
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# Liberty and security of the person

**Oppose any proposal or measures** allowing for coercive placement and treatment of persons with disabilities, such as the draft additional protocol to the Council of Europe's Convention on Human Rights and Biomedicine (**Oviedo Convention**)

Prevent all forms of exploitation, violence and abuse in institutions where persons with disabilities live or receive services by **monitoring the use of EU funds**

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# Youth

Full inclusion of youth with disabilities in EU youth policies and programmes

Ensure the Erasmus+, Solidarity Corps and Create Europe programmes are full inclusive- including through allocating adequate budgets

Ensure that the Youth Guarantee is fully inclusive to all young, including persons with disabilities.

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# Participation, free movement and independent living

- end segregation in institutional care
- ensure significant investment in the transition from institutional to community living
- harmonisation of recognition of disability assessment and portability of support when moving to another EU country (this is essential to ensure to free movement)

**Proposal: transform the European Disability Card pilot project, to a European Disability Card for all persons with disabilities**

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# Accessibility

- guarantee investment in accessibility of built environment and transport (and ensure EU funds never finance inaccessible products, services or infrastructure)
- accessibility must be included as pre-condition in any EU initiatives including in new technologies and research
- ensuring availability and affordability of assistive technology in the EU market

**Proposal: EU Access Board**

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# Employment and training

- strive for legislation to stop persons with disabilities being paid below minimum wage
  - better enforce the existing directive on non-discrimination in employment
  - strengthen obligations for offering reasonable accommodation in the workplace
  - ensure EU funds facilitate employment of persons with disabilities in the open labour market
  - Include accessibility and inclusion of persons with disabilities in non-financial reporting for companies
  - Study and address disability and gender pay gap
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# Social Protection

- Invest into further research on the additional costs persons with disabilities face in their everyday lives
  - Promote flexible and inclusive social protection systems, which allow for access to disability related support while in employment
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# Education and culture:

- Promote the right to inclusive mainstream education
- Guarantee accessibility and inclusiveness of further education and lifelong-learning

# External action

- Invest in disability rights outside of the European Union
- Ensure all projects and infrastructure supported by EU funds is accessible for, and inclusive of, persons with disabilities
- Disability focal points in all EU delegations- with training and support
- Use the DAC marker to track inclusiveness of EU aid
- Host Global Disability Summit in the EU

**Proposal: Disability Action Plan** (similar to the Gender Action Plan 3 launched last week)

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# **EU institutions as disability role model public administrations**

- Ensure accessibility of EU public websites and intranet for employee
  - Create an inclusive and accessible workplace
  - Ensure the European schools adopt and implement an inclusive education policy
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# In closing

- Clarify the roles and responsibilities for implementation, monitoring and reporting
  - Highlight the important roles and responsibility of the EU institutions- for example- call on the Council to adopt the equal treatment directive
  - Put an implementation plan in place
  - Ensure ongoing- dialogue – the consultations held this year should be part of a new system of on-going meaningful engagement
  - EDF and our members are at your disposal for all questions and discussion points
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Thank you for your attention

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