

# SUBSCRIPTION FORM

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM AND SEND IT BY MAIL OR FAX TO:

Autism-Europe a.i.s.b.l.  
Rue Montoyer 39 bte 11  
B-1000 Brussels  
Tel.: 0032 (0) 2.675.75.05  
Fax: 0032 (0) 2.675.72.70  
Email: [secretariat@autismeurope.org](mailto:secretariat@autismeurope.org)

Name .....

Street .....

Number ..... Box .....

Postal Code ..... City .....

Country .....

Tel. ....

Fax .....

Email .....

- I wish to become an individual member (30€)
  - I wish to become an honorary member (150€)
  - I wish to subscribe to Autism-Europe's magazine LINK (23€)
- \*I wish to receive the magazine LINK in:      I pay the sum of:
- |                                    |                               |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> English   | <input type="checkbox"/> 23€  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> French    | <input type="checkbox"/> 30€  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Portugese | <input type="checkbox"/> 150€ |

- by bank transfer:  
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IBAN: BE21 0682 0816 9303 BIC: GKCCBEBB
- by credit card on the website:  
[www.autismeurope.org](http://www.autismeurope.org)

# AUTISM

Autism is a complex lifelong disability, due to multiple medical causes, interfering with the normal development and functioning of the brain, sometimes identifiable in very early childhood. Although the exact mechanisms involved in the neurological dysfunction are not yet clear, autism deeply affects the way the person communicates and relates with his or her environment. Despite initial beliefs to the contrary, autism is not a rare condition. We know that, if the whole spectrum of autistic disorders is considered, the disability may affect almost 6/1000 of population.

Autism can affect any family, regardless of ethnic or social class, and it is four times more frequent in males than in females. Often, but not always, autism is combined with other disabilities, especially general learning difficulties of varying degrees, as well as behavioural problems.

Persons with autism can really improve if early diagnosis is followed by personalised specialised education and treatment. But the vast majority of them, and their families, need intensive and sustained support throughout their lives to fulfil their potential and make the difficult task of living with autism easier.

In spite of the availability of good models of service delivery, most persons affected by autism do not have access to these services nor are they able to benefit from scientific, medical, educational and social progress made during recent decades in reference to this condition. This deprivation generates much suffering and additional difficulties, and constitutes a form of discrimination which Autism-Europe is strongly committed to fight against.

Autism-Europe's overarching statutory mission is to improve the life of all persons with autism by promoting their rights. It is achieved through:

- Representing persons with autism towards all EU institutions
- Promoting awareness on the appropriate care, education, and well-being of persons with autism
- Promoting the exchange of information, good practices and experience.

# Autism - Europe

a.i.s.b.l.



*A European Association which helps to improve the lives of those whose existence is affected by autism*

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For Diversity



Against Discrimination

Soutenue par la Commission Européenne, DG EMPL. Le contenu de ces pages ne reflète pas nécessairement la position ou l'opinion de la Commission Européenne.

# AUTISM-EUROPE a.i.s.b.l.

Autism-Europe ensures effective liaison between nearly 85 member associations of parents of persons with autism in 30 European countries, governments and European and international institutions.

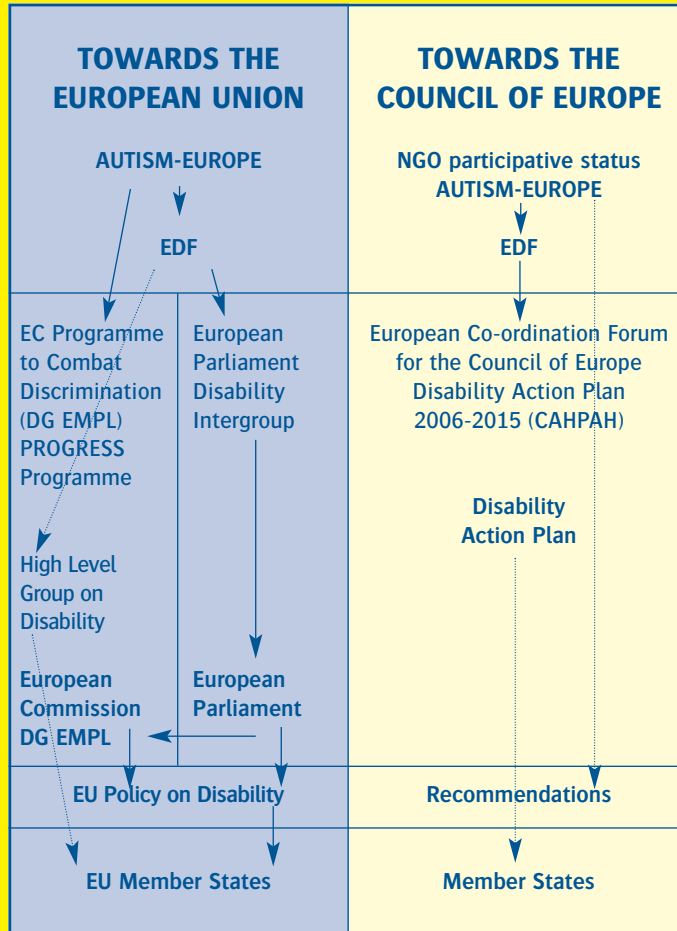
Autism-Europe plays a key role in raising public awareness, and in influencing the European decision-makers on all issues relating to autism, including the promotion of the rights of people with autism and other disabilities involving complex dependency needs.

| THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>EUROPEAN UNION</b><br>• European Parliament<br>• European Commission<br>• European Council<br><br>Founded in 1992<br>27 member States                                  | <b>COUNCIL OF EUROPE</b><br>• Commissioner for Human Rights<br>• European Court of Human Rights<br>• European Committee of Social Rights<br>Committee of Ministers<br><br>Founded in 1948<br>47 Member States |
| MAIN POLICY INSTRUMENTS   |   |
| Disability Action Plan  | Disability Action Plan 2006-2015<br>Committee of Ministers Recommendations<br>Recommendations on Education and Integration of Children with ASD - 2006  |
| MAIN LEGAL INSTRUMENTS  |   |
| Charter of Fundamental Rights<br><br>Directive EC 2000/78   | European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights<br><br>European Social Charter 1961 - 1996   |
| DEFENDING FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS  |   |
| <b>BEFORE THE EU</b><br><br>Submission of petitions to the European Parliament<br><br>Participation of NGOs in the definition of a legal framework applicable Europe-wide | <b>BEFORE THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE</b><br><br>Acting before the:<br>• Commissioner for Human Rights<br>• European Court of Human Rights<br>• European Committee of Social Rights                                 |

# AE ACTIONS TOWARDS THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS

In order to implement its objectives and maximised its impact on EU policies, Autism-Europe has built strategic alliances with European social partners. Autism-Europe is a member of the European Disability Forum (EDF), the European Coalition for Community Living and the Platform of European Social NGOs.

Autism-Europe has established a structured dialogue with the European Institutions and is also active towards the World Health Organisation (WHO).



# SUPPORT AUTISM-EUROPE a.i.s.b.l.

- Become an individual member: annual membership fee is 30€ and includes a one year subscription to LINK\* which is published twice a year.
- Become a member of honour: annual membership fee is 150€ and includes a one year subscription to LINK\* which is published twice a year.
- Subscribe to LINK\* (published twice a year): annual subscription fee is 23€.

**Please send the subscription form by mail or fax to Autism-Europe a.i.s.b.l.,**

**If you are an association you can become:**

- **a Full member:**  
National association, legally constituted, composed of a majority of persons with autism or parents of persons with autism and whose Board is composed of a majority of persons with autism and parents of persons with autism (500 votes at the General Assembly).
- **an Affiliated member:**  
Regional association legally constituted composed of a majority of persons with autism or parents of people with autism and whose Board is composed of a majority of persons with autism or parents of people with autism (50 votes at the General Assembly).
- **an Associated member:**  
Associations, legally constituted, not dealing exclusively with autism (for example, associations for mental disability) (20 votes at the General Assembly).

If you are an association and you wish to become a member you should send a formal letter together with your statutes (translated in English or French), your most recent statutory accounts, a brief account of what you have been able to achieve for autistic people and what you hope to achieve in the future and letters from two sponsors who are full or associated members of Autism-Europe. Your candidature will be submitted to the General Assembly.