

Activity Report

05/2017- 05/ 2018

12 May 2018
Rotterdam, The Netherlands

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With the support of
the European Union



Activity Report

05/2017 to 04/2018



Activity Report 2017



Support **UNCRPD implementation** and other EU policies relevant to persons with autism

Strengthen and expand the network of members

Enhance self-advocate representation at AE congress, in the network, and move forward with the **self-advocate strategy**

Publications, campaigning (WAAD) and dissemination activities

Projects and events

Capacity building and sharing how-know

Activity Report 2017



Contributing to EU law/policies and their implementation

**Promoting the implementation
of the UN Convention on the
Rights of People with
Disabilities in the EU**

**Participation in structured
dialogues, consultations and
policy events**

Advocacy and representation at the EU level



- **On November 17 2017**, the European Commission, jointly with the European Parliament and the Council, solemnly **proclaimed the European Pillar of Social Rights**,
- Autism-Europe **feed into the elaboration of the proposal for the European Pillar of Social Rights** in 2016:
 - AE firmly supported a social and human-rights based approach to disability by mainstreaming the provisions of the UNCRPD in the text, to promote access to education and training and foster equal opportunities to access the labour market.
 - It also emphasized the need for long-term support in the community as well as for enhancing social protection in the context of the financial crisis

Advocacy and representation at the EU level

Public Hearings with EU Institutions



- **EU Disability High Level Group** organised by the European Commission, with representatives from the ministries
May 18 2017, Brussels



- **Work Forum on the implementation of the UNCRPD**
May 19 2017, Brussels



- **Co-chaired of a “expert dialogue”** meeting organized by MEP Helga Stevens in the framework of her own initiative report on the **implementation of the Disability Strategy 2010-2020**
June 6 2017, Brussels

Advocacy and representation at the EU level

Public Hearings with EU Institutions



- Attended two **Strategic Dialogue meetings** organised by the European Commission on the **Work-Life Balance initiative and civil dialogue**
July 3 2017

- Took part in an **information session** by the European Commission on the **EU priorities for disability** (July 25 2017) and **met with the Director of EDF** to align and explore further cooperation (September 2017)



- **Took part in the EU Alliance Against Disability Cuts** event at the European Parliament
September 26 2017, Brussels



Advocacy and representation at the EU level



Public Hearings with EU Institutions

- In June and October 2017, AE spoke at hearing on the **European Disability Strategy 2010-2020** and how to fully implement the CRPD.
- The hearings were hosted by the **European Economic and Social Committee (ESCC)**, with the participation of the **Commission and the Parliament**.
- AE underlined in particular need for harmonised approach between non-discrimination in employment, and access to education, as well as EU guidelines on early diagnosis and intervention, and a common definition of autism across the EU.



Advocacy and representation at the EU level



- AE worked alongside EDF ahead of the **Parliament's vote on its position on the European Accessibility Act** on Sep 14. – also expressed support through our campaign
- AE **spoke to passers-by outside the EP and collected signatures** from the public to support amendments regarding: including the built environment, making links with existing EU legislation, enlarging transport covered, obligations of SMEs to follow the directive, better explaining what is needed to make products and services accessible.

Advocacy and representation at the EU level

Cooperation with EU Institutions



- **Autism and Employment' event**
- Co-organized by AE and the Equal Opportunities Office of the General Secretariat of the **European Council**
5 December 2017, EU Council, Brussels

Advocacy and representation at the EU level

Public Hearings with EU Institutions



- **Public hearing: Ending forced sterilization of women and girls with disabilities**
5 December 2017, EU Parliament
 - 5 AE representatives
 - AE Director did an statement



- **Coproducing employment initiatives for young people**
30 January 2018, EU Parliament

Advocacy and representation at the EU level

Public Hearings with EU Institutions



- **European Day of Persons with Disabilities**
4-5 December 2017, EU Commission
 - 13 members and AE staff participated

- **European Day of Persons with Disabilities**
6 December 2017, EU Parliament
 - 12 members and AE staff participated
 - AE did 2 statements

Advocacy and representation at the EU level

Public Hearings with EU Institutions



- **European Conference: Investing in people – the way forward**
15 February 2018, Sofia, Bulgaria
 - Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the EU
 - AE Director attended

- **Annual Convention for Inclusive Growth**
- 27 April 2018, EU Commission
 - 3 AE representatives

Advocacy and representation at the EU level



ASDEU- AE Recommendations

- On the 29 and 30 January 2018, Autism-Europe unveiled **its preliminary recommendations of a European Strategy for Autism** in the framework of a high-level conference on the preliminary research results of the ASDEU programme.
- The recommendations span several areas: **screening and diagnosis, access to health, education, individual lifelong support, employment, training of professionals, independent living, legal capacity, empowerment of autistic people and their families, as well as research.**
- The **final results** of the ASDEU programme will be made available in a final report in the **course of 2018.**

Advocacy and representation at the EU level

Coming up



- Event in the European Parliament co-organized with MEP Caputo September 2018 (tbc)
- ASDEU results and recommendations

Other meetings and events



EU-AIMS general meeting in
Paris (with Zsuzsanna and Aurélie)
May 23-24

Autism-Europe's General Assembly
Rotterdam 12 May 2018



EU multisport competition for autistic
people in Rome with Zsuzsanna and
Pietro (Sep 9)

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Other meetings and events



- **Round table of association representatives at the ARAPI university**
October 5 2017, France
 - AE President participated



- **Eurime Conference**
March 24 2018, Venice
 - AE Vice-president Pietro Cirrincione presented the AE's WAAD campaign

Other meetings and events



- **2018 Observance of World Autism Awareness Day at United Nations**
5 April 2018, UN Headquarters, New York
 - AE President attended

Cooperation with other European NGOs



socialplatform



Inclusion Europe

Cooperation with other European NGOs



- AE Vice President **Evelyne Friedel**: elected as member of the **EDF Board of Directors**
- AE Vice President **Pietro Cirrincione**: member of the **ITC Expert Group of EDF**
- AE Council of Administration member and self-advocate **Monique Post**: elected as member of the **EDF Women's Committee**
- AE member and self-advocate **Erika Becerra**: re-elected as member of the **EDF Youth Committee**

Autism-Europe meetings since Zagreb



- **AE Executive Committee meeting**
8-9 July 2017, Brussels



- **AE Council of Administration meeting**
21-22 October 2017, Madrid



- **AE Executive Committee meeting**
27-28 January 2018, Madrid

Autism-Europe's General Assembly
Rotterdam 12 May 2018

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Activity Report :

Campaign and dissemination activities





World Autism Awareness Day campaign

**Break barriers
together for autism**

Let's build an accessible society | 2 April

#AutismDay2018

2nd phase of the “Break barriers together for autism - Let's build an accessible society” campaign





World Autism Awareness Day campaign

Updated campaign materials for 2018





World Autism Awareness Day campaign

AE key actions to mark WAAD:



Launch of the testimonies document: “Fostering a barrier-free society for people on the autism spectrum” (April 2nd)

18 testimonies from 16 European countries



Photo exhibition “Beak Barriers Together for Autism” in the European Parliament (from April 9th to April 13th)

Around 60 participants attended the vernissage



World Autism Awareness Day campaign

Countries supporting the campaign in 2018

- Representatives from **16 countries** have **actively supported the campaign** (also Iran and Syria)
Green
- **Campaign materials** have been also shared in other **5 countries**
Yellow





World Autism Awareness Day campaign

Political support in 2018



President of the European Parliament **Antonio Tajani** and **6 MEPs** from 3 different countries





World Autism Awareness Day campaign

Famous supporters in 2018



Some other examples: Players from the football and basketball team Real Madrid, Maltese First Lady Michelle Muscat, Maltese Council or the whole chamber of Castile and Leon government (Spain).



World Autism Awareness Day campaign

Some AE members actively supported the campaign in 2018

- Confederación Autismo España (Spain)
- FESPAU (Spain)
- Autismo Burgos (Spain)
- Autismo Sevilla (Spain)
- Mas Casadevall (Spain)
- Congost Autisme (Spain)
- Our Sunny World (Russia)
- Foundation Autisme Luxembourg (Luxembourg)
- JiM Foundation (Poland)
- Serbian Society of Autism (Serbia)
- Pietro Cirrincione (Italy)
- Alistair de Gaetano (Malta)



THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!





World Autism Awareness Day campaign

Media coverage/ Social media reaching out in 2018 (from January 1st to April 23rd)



- 4 interviews with AE Secretariat about WAAD 2018 (including **France 24**- worldwide)
- At least **70 references to the campaign** by medias, organisations and institutions **from 12 different countries** (and also at EU and worldwide level)



Website



- New AE's website has been revamped in June 2017
- New interface in Easy-to-read
- AE is working to get ready its latest features (intranet, forum for autistic people)
- AE is working to ensure that its website GDPR compliant.



Website



Analytics

From January 1st to April 23rd

- **17K** users
- **21,5K** sessions
- **2m 15s** session duration
- **Countries:** France, USA, UK, India, Spain
- **Age:** 25-34 (33%)
- **Page more visited:** Homepage, Become a member
- **Device:** Desktop (68%), Mobile (25%), Tablet (6%)





e-Newsletters



- More than **5,150 subscribers**
- **1/3** of the subscribers reads the issue
- **70 issues** sent
- **New system** of distribution (MailChimp)
- MailChimp signup forms have been updated to stay **GDPR compliant**. GDPR-friendly forms include checkboxes for opt-in consent, and editable sections that explain how and why AE uses data.





Social media channels



4 social media networks: **16,836 followers in total** (+1736 since May 2017) (By April 23rd)



More than
11,837 followers
+638 since May 2017



More than
4,632 followers
+932 since May 2017



More than
192 followers
+80 since May 2017



More than
175 followers
+65 since May 2016





LINK Magazine



AE released the **68th Edition** of its LINK magazine. We are already working on the **69th Edition** for June 2018.



A brochure with **advertisement rates** is now available to give stakeholders the opportunity to advertise on the LINK.



New banners

Following the design of the new website



1m

2m



3m





Promotional events



AE's stand at the ITASD Congress in Spain (July 2017)- 700 participants





Press coverage



- **At least 138 references** to Autism-Europe activity on the media, institutions, organisations, autism associations and other dissemination platforms *(From January 1st to April 23rd 2018)*
- **+ 70 references** about the WAAD campaign *(From January 1st to April 23rd 2018)*

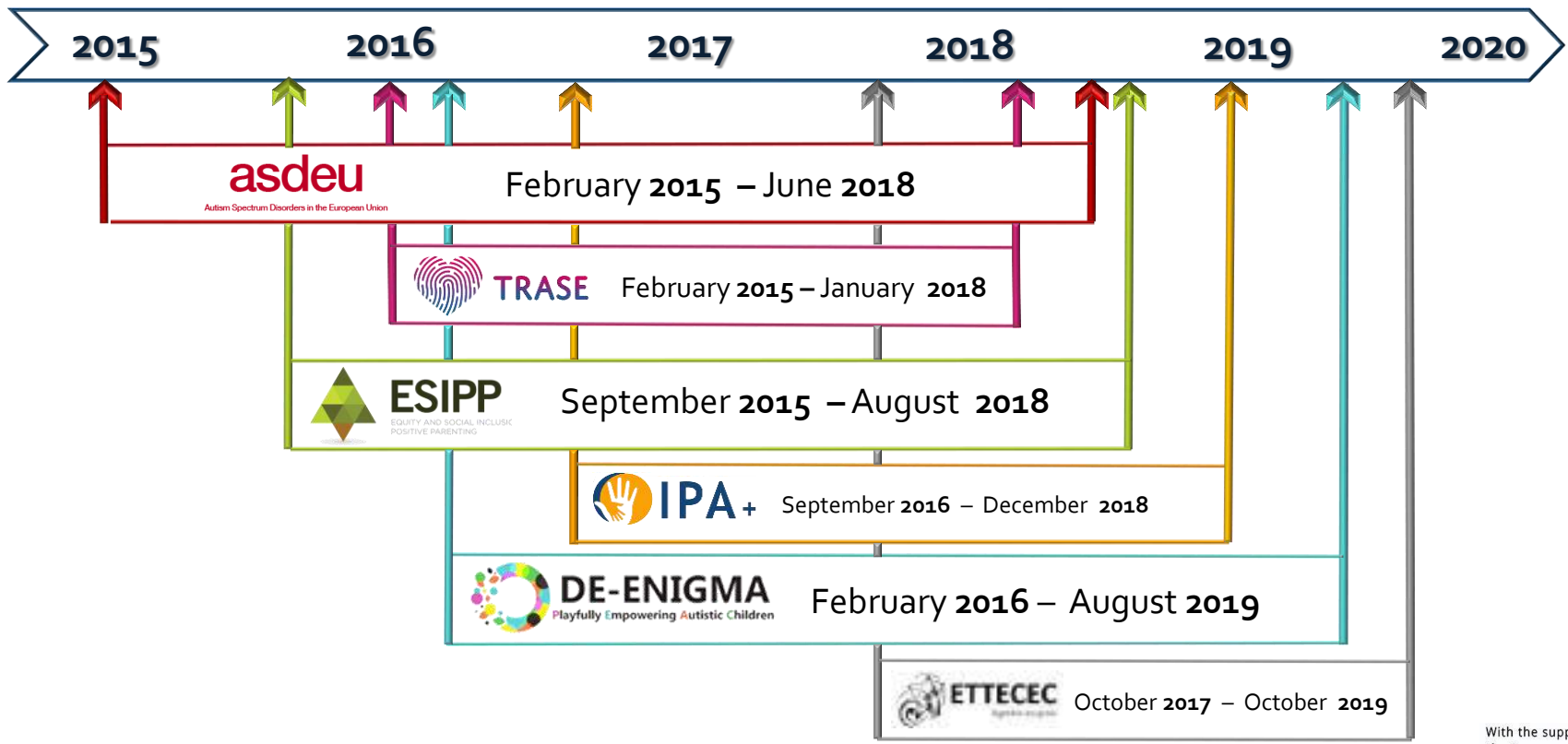
Activity Report 2017:

European projects



EU projects

Timeline of the Autism-Europe's involvement in European projects in 2015- 2020



ASDEU

asdeu

Autism Spectrum Disorders in the European Union



- AE has completed a comprehensive **literature review** outlining autism-specific policies in place throughout the EU.
- A **survey** was launched on the subject of autism policies and services. 900 respondents from all EU Member States gave feedback.
- In January 2018, AE unveiled its preliminary recommendations for a **European Strategy for Autism** based on the survey and the **results of its mapping of policies and legislation across the EU.**

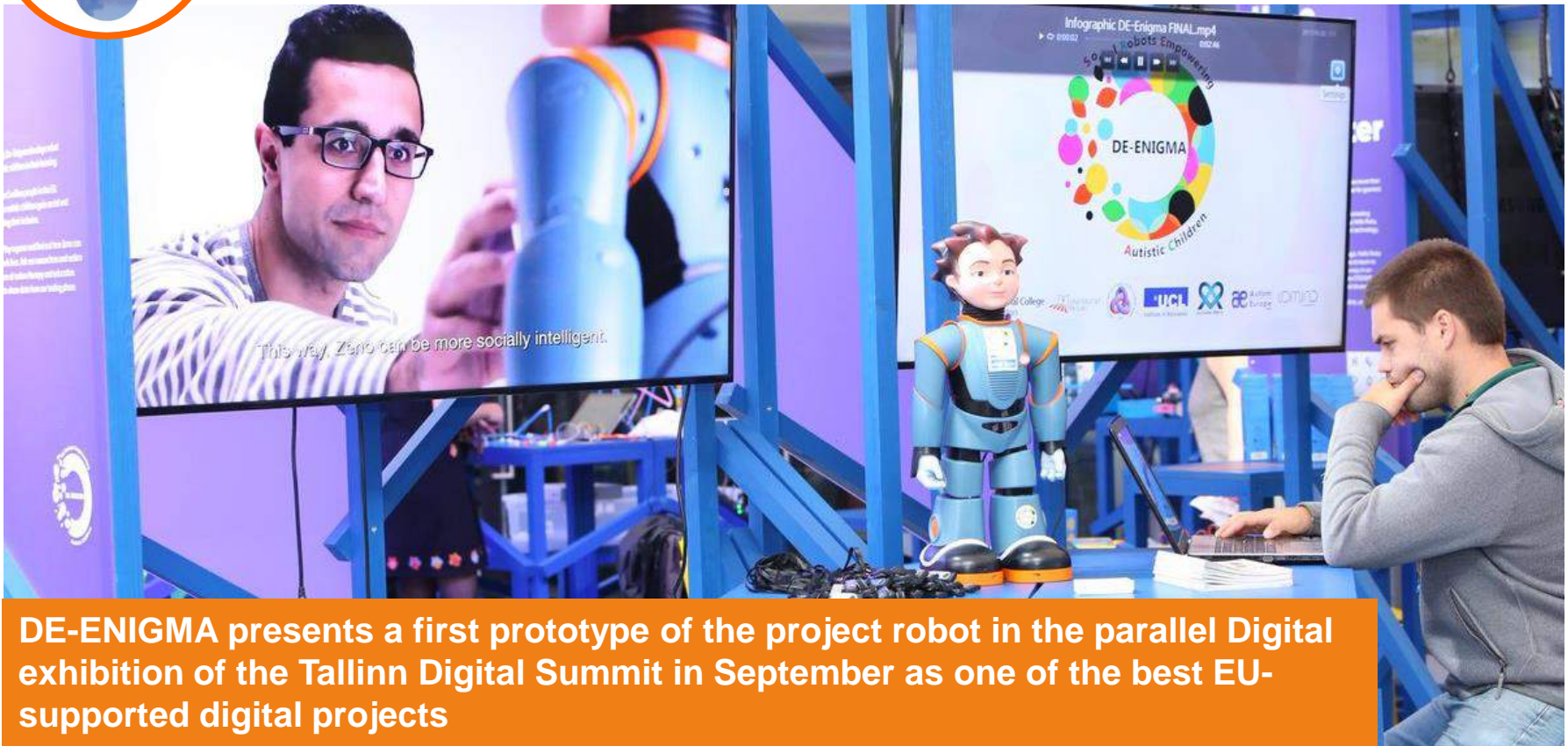
DE-ENIGMA



- **1st prototype of Zeno the robot released** in July 2017 (the project foresees three prototypes)
- **128 children recorded** in Serbia and the UK in its **first 18 months**
- **Preliminary results:** numerous empirical evidences of impact that the teaching program had on children who participated in sessions with Zeno. Almost all of the children showed improvement of socio-emotional skills and their use in context.
- **Currently:** Usability studies with new robot and games' prototypes + Database development
- AE acts as lead **dissemination partner** for the project



DE-ENIGMA



DE-ENIGMA presents a first prototype of the project robot in the parallel Digital exhibition of the Tallinn Digital Summit in September as one of the best EU-supported digital projects





DE-ENIGMA



Estonia PM
Jüri Ratas

Latvia PM
Māris Kučinskis

Poland PM
Beata Szydło

Finland PM
Juha Sipilä

Greece PM
Alexis Tsipras

The Netherlands PM
Mark Rutte



DE-ENIGMA



Media gives the floor to DE-ENIGMA partners to report on the project's latest developments, notably in the UK: BBC Worldwide, BBC Two, BBC Four...



ESIPP



- ESIPP partners have developed a locally appropriate **Parent Education Programme (PEP)** or families living with autism in Croatia, Cyprus and the FYR of Macedonia.
- **335 parents attended core training sessions** (115 parents have attended non core sessions)
- **18 local trainers** have been trained
- Trainings were conducted in **11 cities of 3 countries**
- **4 multiplier events** successfully held in 4 countries (with around 100 participants per event)
- **Policy recommendations** that will be unveiled at the beginning of June
- AE acts as lead **dissemination partner** for the project

IPA+



- IPA+ aims to develop **basic training of reference point for all professionals working with autistic people**
- IPA+ partners have developed the **syllabus, contents and activities for each learning module**, including a **basic level** for professionals who will work with people on the autism spectrum, and an **advanced level** for professionals who want to acquire specialist knowledge and skills.
- **Pilot courses** are being held in Burgos, Lisbon and Belgrade
- AE acts as lead **dissemination partner** for the project
 - **Final Conference:** Brussels, November 2018

TRASE



- AE completed its contribution to the **training modules and learning tools**.
- In May 2017 **AE organised a day-long conference** on sexual education for persons with learning disabilities, as part of the TRASE project.
- This was **followed by an in-depth workshop at in June**, where participants were presented with tools for providing adapted sexual education that is catered to the needs of each pupil.

Ongoing projects (AE as observing partner)



MiND– Training Network ADHD and Autism (2015-2019)

Aiming at **educating a new generation of researchers in the field of neurodevelopmental disorders**, through innovation-oriented research combined with highly interdisciplinary and intersectoral international training.

Project: BRAINVIEW (2015- 2019)

Aiming at **investigating the disruptions of brain development in early life leading to autism and ADHD and to teach young researchers** on these topics.

Questions?



Sponsors



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Thanks for your listening

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AE's Work Programme 2018

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