Welcome to Autism-Europe’s e-newsletter.

This newsletter is in easy-to-read language.

In this newsletter you will find 3 articles.
The first article on page number 4 is about how the European Union should make a plan to support autistic people.

The second article on page number 14 is about a new project with meeting in the Canary Islands.

The final article on page number 22 is about a training on easy-to-read writing given by Autism-Europe.

You can send us ideas for the next e-newsletter.

If you have ideas, write us an email. Write to communication@autismeurope.org
Autism Europe explains how to make a European plan for autism

In January 2018 there was a conference in Madrid, in Spain.

A conference is when people come together to talk and listen about a particular subject.

This conference was about research on autism.
Some of the research was about how many people have autism in different countries.

Some of the research was also about what laws exist in Europe to support autistic people.

The conference was part of a big programme called ASDEU.

Some people from Autism-Europe were at the conference.
Aurélie Baranger, the Director of Autism-Europe, was there.

Zsuzsanna Szilvasy, the President of Autism-Europe, was also there.

Aurélie Baranger spoke at the conference.

She explained what things the European Union should do to support autistic people.
She explained how the European Union should make a plan to support autistic people.

The plan should help people get an autism diagnosis early.

A “diagnosis” is when a specialist says that a person has autism.

Having a diagnosis at a young age means a person can get the support they need quickly.
The plan should also give support to parents who have a child with autism.

The plan should explain to countries how to include autistic people in schools.

The plan should explain to countries how to support autistic people who want to find a job.

The European Union should spend money to teach people about autism.
They should teach people who work with autistic people how they can support them better.

The plan should also explain to countries how autistic people can live in the community.

The European Union should spend money to stop autistic people having to live in big institutions.

An institution is a place where some people live when they cannot live at home.
In an institution, people **do not live with their family**.

In an institution, people **cannot make decisions** about their life.

In an institution, people are **kept away from their community**.

Autism-Europe **does not think an institution is a good place** for a person to live.
In the past many people with disabilities had to live in institutions.

Today fewer people live in institutions than in the past.

This is a good thing.

But lots of people with disabilities still do live in institutions.
The European Union should help stop this.

We want autistic people to make choices about their lives.

We want autistic people to have support to live like other people do.

These are some of the things Autism-Europe told the people working for the European Union.
We hope that the European Union will make a plan to support all autistic people.

We hope the European Union will listen to our ideas.
New project starts with meeting in the Canary Islands

Autism-Europe is taking part in a new project.

The project is called ETTECEC.

The project is about including young autistic children in school and care services.
It is about mixing autistic children with other children who are not autistic.

It is about showing teachers and carers how to include autistic children.

It teaches them how to support autistic children.

It is about stopping autistic children from being separated from other children.
The project will train some teachers and carers in three countries.

The countries are Spain, Slovenia and the Czech Republic.

It will train teachers and carers about what autism is.

It will train them about how to include autistic children.
It will train them about what **things can be difficult** for autistic children.

The teachers will test if the training is good.

Many **autistic children** will take part too.

They will be able to **go to school with children who are not autistic**.
The teachers will use the things they learned to support the autistic children.

They will let autistic children be part of the community.

On the 11 January the first meeting of the project took place.

The meeting happened in the Canary Islands.
The Canary Islands are part of Spain.

Partners in the project come from 4 different countries.

Other people came to the meeting to hear about the project.

Some autistic people were there.
Some parents of autistic people were there.

Some professionals working with autistic people were there.

And some people working in schools and universities were there.

Cristina Fernández from Autism-Europe went to the meeting.
Autism-Europe will be in charge of **sharing information** about the project.
Autism-Europe gives training on easy-to-read writing

On the 17 January 2017 Autism-Europe gave a training session.

The training session was about how to make writing easy to read.

The training session was organised by the organisation Inclusion Europe.
Inclusion Europe represents **people with learning disabilities**.

Autism-Europe is writing **more things** in an easy-to-read way.

This is because we want **more people** to be part of the work we do.

We want to make it **easier to understand** what Autism-Europe does.
We want it to be easier for all people to tell us what they think.

And to tell us what things can be difficult about being autistic.

We want to include everyone!

Haydn Hammersley from Autism-Europe gave the training session.
He talked about **the rules to follow** to make writing easy to read.

He also showed how to make a page **look simple and clear**.

This **helps people concentrate on the words** and not get lost.

We hope **more people will start to write in an easy-to-read way**.
This way more people can take part in society.

This way people with learning disabilities can be more independent.

Independent means they can do more things by themselves.
We hope you have **enjoyed** reading this!

On this publication we follow the **advice** of the organisation **Inclusion Europe**.

We follow their **guidelines** to make the easy to read version of our e-newsletter.

This way we make sure the information is **as clear as possible**.
We use **pictograms** to help make things easier to understand.

The pictograms used in this e-newsletter come from the programme © **Picto-Selector**.

Some of them have been adapted and/or created by Autism-Europe.

Visit this website below to read the easy-to-read guidelines:

[http://easy-to-read.eu/](http://easy-to-read.eu/)

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