Autism-Europe improves the quality of life of autistic people

E-newsletter - Decembre 2018

This information is easy to read!
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 the Autism-Europe’s meeting in Brussels.
The second article on page number 8 is about the meeting on the European Days of Persons with Disabilities.

The third article on page number 17 is about the right to vote of persons with disabilities.

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

If you have ideas, **write us an email**. Write to **communication@autismeurope.org**.
On 1 and 2 December 2018 Autism-Europe members met in Brussels.

Brussels is a city in Belgium.

40 people from 18 countries came to the meeting in Brussels.
At the meeting people learned about **rules to follow for things and services to be accessible** for people with disabilities.

These rules are called **standards**.

People with disabilities **can help make standards** to have things and services more accessible.

At the meeting people decided **about what Autism-Europe will do** in 2019.
People also voted for the next president of Autism-Europe.

The new president is Harald Neerland.

He will start as president in 2020.

He is from Norway.
Norway is a country in Europe.

His daughter is autistic.

People also talked about the plan for the congress of Autism-Europe in 2019.

People also learned about the Participate Autisme website from Belgium.
Belgium is a country in Europe.

The website has information for Belgium to help autistic children and their families.
Meeting on the European Day for Persons with Disabilities

On 3 and 4 December 2018 there was a meeting in Brussels, Belgium.

The meeting was about persons with disabilities and how to make their lives better.

For example, with new laws.
Laws are rules all people must follow.

Many persons with disabilities from Europe, people from the European Disability Forum, members of the European Parliament, and people working for the European Commission came to the meeting.

Click here to read what all the speakers said.

The European Disability Forum helps the European Commission and the European Parliament to make laws for persons with disabilities from Europe.
The European Commission and the European Parliament **make laws together** for all people of European Union.

The **European Union** is a group of 28 countries from Europe.

At the meeting, **Pietro Cirrincione** spoke.

He is the **vice-president** of Autism-Europe.
Together with other people he leads Autism-Europe.

He said more has to be done for autistic people and Autism-Europe can help to do more for autistic people.

There was a group of autistic people, their relatives and people working for Autism-Europe at the meeting.

At the meeting people also talked about culture in Europe and what it has to offer.
Culture is the ideas and behaviours of a group of people.

Culture is also about books, films, music, museums, monuments, and places where important things happened.

At the meeting people talked about how to make culture easy to access for persons with disabilities.

Some cities of the European Union won a prize.
The prize is called the Access City Award.

A city is accessible when all people can live in it, move around and use all services without problems.

Marianne Thyssen and Tibor Navracsics from the European Commission gave the award to the winners.

The city of Breda in the Netherlands won prize number 1 because Breda is easy to access for persons with very different disabilities.
The city of **Evreux, in France** won award number 2

and the city of **Gdynia, in Poland** won award number 3.

People from the cities of **Vigo, in Spain** and **Kaposvár, in Hungary**, won prizes for making their cities easy to access.

It was difficult because these two cities are **very hilly**.
People from the cities of Viborg, Denmark, and Monteverde, Italy, won prizes because their culture activities and places are easy to access for persons with disabilities.
Persons with disability want the right to vote

The European Disability Forum wants the right to vote for persons with disability.

Autism-Europe is a member of the European Disability Forum

“Rights” mean what you can and cannot do
All people should have the same rights.

Many persons with disabilities cannot vote for many reasons.

Sometimes there is a lack of access.

Some people cannot use the stairs to get to the place to vote, for example.
Sometimes persons with disabilities do not have the right to vote because other people think they are not able to vote.

So they take the right to vote away from disabled people.

It is not fair and equal.

For person with intellectual disabilities it is not always easy to understand written information.
So persons with intellectual disabilities need support and information that is easy to read.

If they are given information that is easy to understand, they can decide what they prefer and vote too.

In May 2019 the people of the European Union will vote for the European Parliament.

The European Union is a group of 28 countries from Europe.
The European Parliament make laws for all people of European Union.

Laws are rules all people must follow.


So the European Parliament will make laws for them, too.
The European Disability Forum made a petition to make it possible for persons with disabilities to vote for the European Parliament.

A petition is a text to ask to change something.

To ask for the right to vote for people with disabilities you can sign the petition of the European Disability Forum.

Click here to sign the petition.
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/

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