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 people with intellectual disabilities voting in the European elections.
The second article on page number 9 is about the European Parliament elections.

The third article on page number 12 is about rules to help parents and carers enjoy more quality time.

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

If you have ideas, write us an email. Write to communication@autismeurope.org
People with intellectual disabilities voted in the European elections

Around 250,000 people with intellectual disabilities from the European Union voted for the first time at the European Parliament election in May 2019.

It is not always easy for person with intellectual disabilities to understand all written information.

Persons with intellectual disabilities need support and information that is easy to read.
If they get information that is easy to understand, they can decide what they want and vote.

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

The European Parliament make laws for all people of the European Union.

Laws are rules all people must follow.
Around **100,000 people** with intellectual disabilities voted for the first time at the European Parliament election **in Spain**.

Around **80,000 people** with intellectual disabilities voted for the first time at the European Parliament election **in Germany**.

Around **65,000 people** with intellectual disabilities voted for the first time at the European Parliament election **in France**.

To vote, people with intellectual disabilities have now **part of their legal capacity**.
Legal capacity means that people with intellectual disabilities can decide what they want for themselves.

But 500,000 people with intellectual disabilities from the European Union did not vote.

Because in 5 countries of the European Union people with intellectual disabilities have no right to vote.

Rights are things you can and cannot do.
People with intellectual disabilities did not vote in 10 countries because a judge or a guardian decide if they can vote.

These countries have to change the laws.

People with intellectual disabilities want to vote like everybody.

So they should have the right to vote.
People voted in May for the European Parliament elections.

Elections are when adults from one country can choose.

They choose who will take decisions for the country.
It is the **first time**
many people with intellectual disability
**can vote.**

The European Parliament is
**a group of people** chosen
from the countries
of the European Union.

They are called the
**members** of the European Parliament.

The **European Union** is
**a group of 28 countries** from Europe.
They make **decisions on laws** for the European Union.

**Laws** are rules all people and countries must follow.

The 28 countries have the **same laws**.

**Autism- Europe wants to help members of the European Parliament to make laws to help autistic people.**
European Union makes rules to help parents and carers enjoy more quality time

In 2019, the European Parliament and the European Council voted for the **Work-Life Balance Directive**.


The European Union is a group of **28 countries** from Europe.
Laws are rules that all people and countries must follow.

A directive is a rule that becomes laws in all European Union countries.

The Work Life Balance Directive helps people enjoy more quality time at home.

The directive helps people to support their families better.

They can be with their families more when they need them and take some time off work.
Fathers who work get at least **10 free days** when they have a baby.

Fathers who work **get paid** during this time.

All **parents** can get **time off** to care for their family.

**Carers** get **5 days per year** to be with their family when they need them.
Autism-Europe thinks the Work Life Balance Directive helps autistic people when they are parents they have more time for their children.

Autistic children can have more support from their parents.
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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