



**Autism-Europe improves  
the quality of life of autistic people**

E-newsletter – July 2025



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# Editorial



This is the newsletter of Autism-Europe in easy-to-read.

You will find 1 article in this newsletter:

- Autism-Europe's Review of the UN's Recommendations to the EU

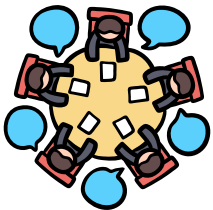


## Autism-Europe's Review of the UN's Recommendations to the EU



### About this report

This report is about what the United Nations (UN) Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) said to the European Union (EU). The CRPD checks if the EU is doing what it promised under the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). The CRPD wants all disabled people, including autistic people, to enjoy their rights and take part in society equally.



In March 2025, the CRPD reviewed what the EU has done.

The CRPD wrote their advice in a report called “Concluding Observations.”

Autism-Europe is happy because many of the CRPD's suggestions are similar to what we asked for in our alternative report earlier this year. This report explains the parts that are important for autistic people.





### **What the CRPD told the EU to do:**

1. Make new plans in the second part of the EU Disability Strategy to support disabled people, including autistic people.
2. Make it easier for autistic people to be assessed and recognised as disabled.
3. Help autistic people who live in poverty or feel left out.
4. Support autism training to professionals and improve local support services.
5. Help autistic people get jobs, even those who need more support.
6. Stop forced treatments.  
Use supported decision-making instead of guardianship.



### **Parliament Resolution on Autism**

The CRPD mentioned the 2023 European Parliament Resolution on the Rights of Autistic People as a good step forward by the EU. This Resolution shows the many difficulties autistic people and their families face and asks the EU to take action.



### **General Principles and Obligations (Articles 1–4)**

The CRPD said the EU still uses the “medical model” of disability too much.

They want all EU countries to agree on how to recognise disability, including autism.

This helps autistic people move freely between countries.

The first part of the EU Disability Strategy ended in 2024 with no new plan.

There were only a few actions for autistic people.

The CRPD says autistic people and their organisations must be included when planning future actions.



### **Equality and Non-Discrimination (Article 5)**

The EU must make a stronger anti-discrimination law that protects autistic people in areas like health and education.

Not just at work.

Autism-Europe and the CRPD both agree this is needed, especially for people who need more support.



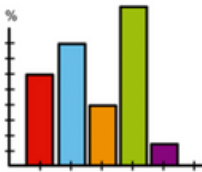


### **Women with Disabilities (Article 6)**

The CRPD agrees with Autism-Europe that the EU does not do enough for disabled women, including autistic women.

Current EU plans like the Gender Equality Strategy do not focus enough on women with disabilities.

The EU must listen more to disabled women when making rules.



### **Children with Disabilities (Article 7)**

The CRPD is worried about autistic children being placed in institutions and not being counted in EU data.

Autism-Europe said that autistic children often don't get early support or a say in decisions.

The CRPD says the EU must collect more data and stop putting children in institutions.



### **Awareness-Raising (Article 8)**

The CRPD is worried about stereotypes and negative ideas about autism.

Autism-Europe said that autism is still seen as a medical problem, not a human rights issue.

The CRPD says the EU should run a big awareness campaign

The campaign should be made with autistic people.



### **Right to Life (Article 10)**

During COVID-19, autistic people were often denied care

Autistic people in institutions were left out.

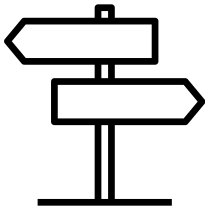


Autism-Europe told the UN that this was discrimination.

It put autistic people's lives at risk.



The CRPD said that everyone must have equal access to healthcare and emergency help.

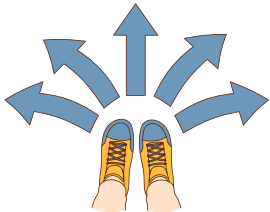


### **Equal Recognition Before the Law (Article 12)**

The CRPD is worried that many autistic people are still under guardianship and can't make legal decisions.

The CRPD said the EU must support countries to use supported decision-making instead.

This means giving help to make choices, not replacing a person's decisions.



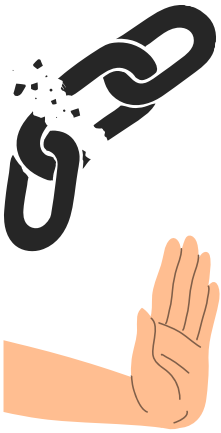
### **Liberty and Security of the Person (Article 14)**

The CRPD said that autistic people are wrongly put into psychiatric hospitals because there is not enough community support.

They want the EU to spend money on services in the community.

The EU should not pay for institutions.





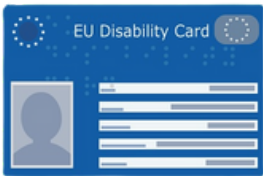
### **Freedom from Cruel or Inhuman Treatment (Article 15)**

The CRPD is worried about physical restraints, forced medication, and harsh treatments of autistic people and children. They want the EU to ban forced psychiatric treatments. Care should always be based on informed consent. Informed consent means the person agrees to treatment themselves. The person has all the information about the treatment before agreeing.



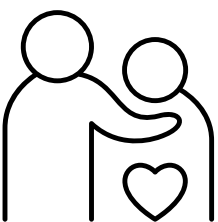
### **Liberty of Movement (Article 18)**

It is hard for autistic people to move to a different EU country. This is because their disability is not always recognised in other countries. The EU Disability Card helps, but only for short trips. It does not cover social benefits or long stays. The CRPD says the card should work for long-term moves too. The card should support freedom of movement for autistic people. Freedom of movement is a right for all people in the EU.



### **Living independently and being included in the community (Article 19)**

The CRPD said that not enough is being done to help autistic people live independently in their community. EU money is being used for institutions instead of community services. The CRPD says the EU should fix its guidance on independent living. The EU should fund community services like personal assistants and accessible housing.







## **Education (Article 24)**

The CRPD says autistic students are still excluded from regular schools.

Teachers are not trained to include autistic students.

School systems are not inclusive.

The EU must make education systems inclusive.

Education can be inclusive with reasonable accommodations, accessible buildings and trained teachers.



## **Health (Article 25)**

The CRPD says health care is not accessible for many autistic people.

The EU must make sure medical info is in easy-to-read format

Doctors and nurses must be trained to understand autism.



## **Habilitation and Rehabilitation (Article 26)**

The CRPD says the EU must support training and quality checks for autism-specific services.

Services should focus on helping autistic people to live better lives and take part in the community.



## **Work and Employment (Article 27)**

Autistic people still face unfair treatment at work

The autistic community has a high unemployment rate.

The CRPD wants the EU to fight discrimination in employment

This will help autistic people get jobs that are accessible for them.



## **Adequate standard of living and social protection (Article 28)**

Autistic people and their families often have less money.

This is because support services are expensive or do not exist.

Families lose income from caring responsibilities.

The CRPD says the EU should use its funds to fight poverty among disabled people.



## **Conclusion**

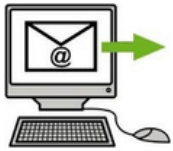
These UN recommendations are very important.

They show exactly what the EU must do to improve disability rights.

Autism-Europe will use them to keep working for change and better support for autistic people.



Read the full document here: [UN CRPD Committee Concluding Observations on the EU](#)



Send us ideas for the next e-newsletter.

If you have ideas, write us an email.

Write to [communication@autismeurope.org](mailto:communication@autismeurope.org)

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