



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

E-newsletter – October 2024



This information is
easy to read!



Editorial



This is the newsletter of Autism-Europe in easy-to-read.
You will find 2 articles in this newsletter.

- 1 article on page 3 is on the New European Disability Card Law Adopted
- 1 article on page 5 is on the Call for presentations for our international congress 2025

New European Disability Card Law Adopted



On October 14 the Council of the European Union adopted a Directive. A Directive is a type of European Legislation.

The Directive created 2 new cards for people with disabilities:

1.The European Parking Card for persons with disabilities

2.The European Disability Card



These new cards will help disabled people travel and stay for short periods in any country within the European Union.

Autism-Europe welcomes this decision

Autism-Europe has been asking for these cards for a long time.



Now that the Council of the European Union has adopted the Directive each European Union country will have:

- 2.5 years to prepare new rules.
- 3.5 years to put these new rules into action.

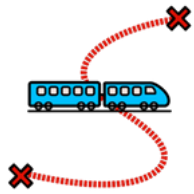


Proof of Disability:

The new cards will be available digitally and as a physical card.

They will show that a person has a disability

They will show the person is eligible for special services across the EU



Make Travel Easier:

The cards will give disabled people the same special access and treatment across all EU countries during short visits.



Next Steps:

The cards must be available soon.

The cards will help autistic people and other with invisible disabilities. Autism-Europe and the European Disability Forum will work together.

They want to make sure all countries use the cards fairly

They want ensure autistic people can also benefit from this change.



Call for presentations for our international congress 2025

We want your abstracts for the 14th Autism-Europe International Congress.



The abstract is a brief, clear summary of the information in your presentation.



The congress is from 11th to 13th September 2025.

It will be in Dublin, Ireland.

The theme is Quality of Life: Research, Policy and Practice.



Everyone is welcome to submit an abstract.

This includes people with personal experience of autism and people from different fields (science, arts, social science, education, technology).



You can submit an abstract about research.

A research abstract should have this structure:

1. Explain your central question.
2. Describe your method (how you did your research).
3. Share your results.
4. Talk about the impact of your research on autistic people



You can submit an abstract about best practices or a personal story.

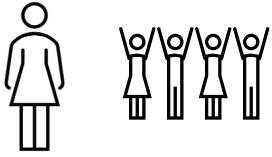
A best practices or personal story abstract should have this structure:

1. Say why it is important.
2. Share what you did
3. Describe the challenges
4. Explain the benefits
5. Say what's next.

Here is a list of the topics that we hope to include in the congress:

1. Physical & mental health (for example, healthcare access)
2. Ageing in autistic people
3. Support for a good life (for example, joy, arts, and leisure)
4. Employment
5. Safe and autism-friendly spaces
6. Education at all ages
7. Gender & sexuality
8. Different perspectives and underrepresented voices
9. Housing and independent living
10. Autism with other conditions
11. Autistic communication
12. Rights, advocacy, and policy changes.

You can submit an abstract that is about something different.



Here are the guidelines for your abstract submission:

You can write up to 250 words.

Your abstract should be in plain language.

Your abstract must be in English.

You can submit as one person or as a group.



Important Notes:

Keep it anonymous. This means you should not include your name or place in the abstract.

Include trigger warnings for topics that might be upsetting.

For example, if your topic includes discussion of abuse, violence, suicide.

You can write on the form to warn the reader what is included.



The deadline is 10th of January.

You must submit before 11:59 pm on January 10 th .

There is only one way to submit. Online on the website:

<https://autismcongress2025.org>



Autism-Europe will not accept email or mail submissions.



Try to use terms like autistic person or person on the autism spectrum."

Please avoid terms like "suffers from autism" or "victim of autism."



Your abstract submission will be reviewed by 2 people.

They will review the abstracts based on:

1. Quality
2. Novelty
3. Impact on the community



If you have questions or need help with your submission

You can email us at this address aec.abstracts@abstractserver.com



Send us ideas for the next e-newsletter.

If you have ideas, write us an email.

Write to communication@autismeurope.org

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