



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

E-newsletter – December 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: AE welcomes guidance on independent living for disabled people.
- 1 article on page 6: Easy-to-Read Introduction to the European Day of Persons with Disabilities (EDPD) Conference 2024.

AE welcomes guidance on independent living for disabled people.



On 20 November 2024, the European Commission released a new guide.

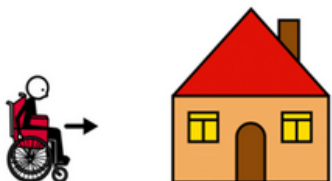
This guide gives advice to European countries.

The advice is about how to spend money to help people with disabilities live independently.



The guide is called “**Guidance on independent living and inclusion in the community of persons with disabilities in the context of EU funding.**”

It is an important step to help people with disabilities live independently.





All people with disabilities have the right to live independently and be part of their community.

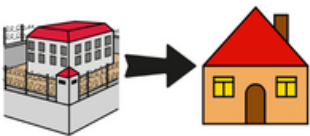
This right is written in article 19 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.



Today, about 1.4 million people with disabilities in the EU still live in institutions.

In some parts of Europe, many autistic people live in large institutions. They are not allowed to go outside, leave their beds, or make their own choices.

These people are often neglected or abused.



The new guide will help EU countries move from institutional care to community-based services.

It explains how to use EU money to help people with disabilities live independently.



The guide says EU countries should follow good examples already in place.

It gives advice on how to use EU funds to support the rights of people with disabilities.

EU funds means money given by the European Union.



Autism-Europe supports the right of autistic people to live independently. It is important that people get the support they need to live the way they choose.

Autism-Europe works to:

- Close institutions.
- Make sure people have the right housing and support.
- Ensure that autistic people can choose where and how they live.

AE is a member and co-chair of the European Expert Group on independent living.

AE worked with the European Commission and others to write this guide.



2021-2030

It is very important that this guide is followed.

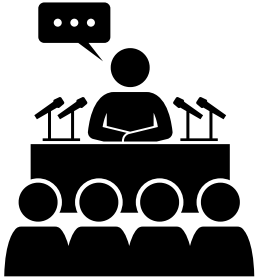
Autism-Europe asks for the guide to be mentioned in laws about how EU money is used.

The guide's rules should be required when deciding who gets EU funds.

This guide helps meet the promises of the UN CRPD.

It is also an important part of the EU's Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030.

Easy-to-Read Introduction to the European Day of Persons with Disabilities (EDPD) Conference 2024



The **European Day of Persons with Disabilities** conference took place on **November 28-29, 2024** in **Brussels**.

It was organised by the **European Commission** and the **European Disability Forum**

More than **400 people** came together to talk about **disability rights** and how to improve life for disabled people in Europe.



Autism-Europe took part to make sure that **autistic people's voices** were heard.

AE's delegate Pietro asked for **better inclusion** of autistic people when creating policies and research projects about autism.

The conference focused on:

- **Accessibility and inclusion**
- **Independent living**
- **Creating cities that are easy to access for everyone**

Links to the Panels:

[Panel 1 The Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Making the second phase a success](#)

[Panel 2 The right to independent Living](#)

[Panel 3 Accessible and inclusive cities](#)

[2025 Access City Awards 15th anniversary](#)





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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