



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

E-newsletter – April 2025



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: On the 2nd April 2025, was World Autism Awareness Day. Autism-Europe shared good news on this day.
- 1 article on page 6: Easy-to-Read Summary: Autism-Europe's Alternative Report



2nd April 2025

On the 2nd April 2025 was World Autism Awareness Day. Autism-Europe shared good news on this day.

The United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) has published concluding observations for the European Union (EU).



Concluding Observations' is what the UN call a document with important advice for states or institutions like the EU.

This advice matches what Autism-Europe asked for in our alternative report to the UN and in our “Not Invisible” campaign for World Autism Awareness day.

It shows that the voices of autistic people and their families are being heard.



The CRPD Committee asks the EU to do many important things. They want the EU to add new actions for autistic people in the next part of the Disability Strategy.

The CRPD Committee says disability assessments must become easier for autistic people.

This will help autistic people get the support they need.



The Committee also asks the EU to fight poverty and social exclusion.

Many autistic people today live in poverty or feel left out.

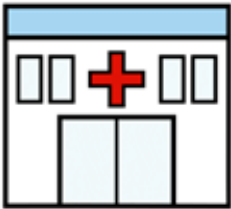


Training about autism must be compulsory for professionals like teachers and doctors.

Good training can help autistic people live independently with the right support.



The EU should also make it work more accessible for autistic people, including those needing more support. Everyone should have a chance to work.



The Committee says forced treatments, like those in psychiatric hospitals, must stop.

Autistic people have the right to choose their care.



Guardianship should end, and supported decision-making must be promoted.

Autistic people should be helped to make their own choices.



The Committee also wants the EU to fix unfair treatment.

Autistic people should not face discrimination because of gender, age, race, or anything else.



This document shows what the EU must improve to respect disability rights.
It tells the EU exactly where to act.

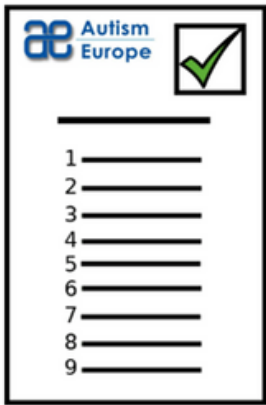


Autism-Europe promises to keep working closely with the EU and others to make these changes happen.



You can read the full Concluding Observations on our website.

Easy-to-Read Summary: Autism-Europe's Alternative Report



Autism-Europe (AE) wrote this report.

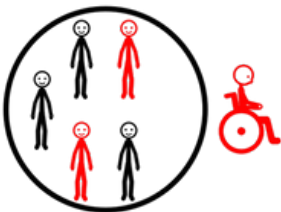
This report checks if the European Union (EU) is following the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

The CRPD is a law that protects the rights of disabled people.

This includes the rights of autistic people.

The report looks at what the EU has done well and what still needs to be done to improve life for autistic people.

The United Nations checks this report.



Here are some of the problems in the EU for autistic people

AE wrote about these problems in the report.

Discrimination

Autistic people still face unfair treatment in many areas of life. EU anti-discrimination laws mainly focus on work.

They do not protect autistic people in other areas like healthcare and education.

AE wants the EU to make stronger laws to stop discrimination everywhere.



Independent Living

Many autistic people are placed in institutions instead of getting the support they need to live in the community.

Some EU funds are used to support institutions instead of independent living.

AE calls for better monitoring of EU funds to make sure they help autistic people live independently.



Employment

Many autistic people struggle to find and keep jobs

This because workplaces are not accessible.

Autistic people have one of the highest unemployment rates in Europe.

AE wants the EU to create better rules to support autistic workers.



Education

Autistic students often do not get the support they need in school.

Some are forced to go to special schools instead of learning with everyone else.

AE wants more EU funds to be used for inclusive education and autism-specific teacher training.



Healthcare

Many doctors and nurses do not understand autism well.

Autistic people often don't get the right medical care or early diagnosis.

AE calls for autism training for healthcare professionals and

better access to healthcare services.



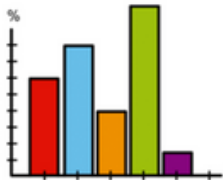


Awareness and Data Collection

Many people do not understand autism, which leads to stigma and misinformation.

There is not enough data on autistic people, making it hard to create good policies.

AE asks the EU to improve autism awareness campaigns and collect better data on autistic people's needs.



What Needs to Happen Next?

The EU should stop funding institutions and focus on community-based living.

- The EU should improve workplace support and reasonable accommodations for autistic employees.
- The EU should make sure schools provide the right support for autistic students.
- The EU should ensure that all autistic people get fair treatment in healthcare.
- The EU should increase awareness and collect better data on autism.

AE will keep working to make sure that the EU improves the rights of autistic people and follows the CRPD.



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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