

Annual Report 2007

Inclusion Europe



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Inclusion Europe

Inclusion Europe fights for respect, solidarity and inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities.



Ingrid Körner is the president of Inclusion Europe. She mentions 3 main things that happened in 2007.

- 1** The Convention of the United Nations is signed by more and more countries. This is good because it is a useful tool to help us fight for better lives for people with intellectual disabilities.
- 2** The European Disability Forum asked the Commission for a law fighting against discrimination of people with disabilities. More than 1 million persons from all over Europe signed the paper asking for this new law. So the European Commission should not ignore us.
- 3** A report was published about deinstitutionalisation and community living. It shows that community-based services are not more expensive than institutions. So every government should set up more services in the community.



"It will be a huge task to implement the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities which raises hope for the improvement of living conditions of people with intellectual disabilities. To realise these hopes we have to improve our work every day a little more. Let's do it by mutual support."

Reviewing the last words of my Annual Report for the year 2006, it is with great pleasure that I can report the realisation of these hopes by mutual support in 2007 with the Strategic Policy Seminar for leaders of the Inclusion movement. In Prague we discussed common strategies for the implementation of the UN Convention for people with intellectual disabilities and their organisations at international level.

With the signature and ratification process happening in record time the Convention will soon be an enforceable document in signatory countries. Authorities in Europe have begun plans to screen their legislation to determine changes necessary for implementation, and the monitoring structures for the implementation of the Convention will be set up shortly. People with intellectual disabilities, their families and their organisations must seize the opportunity to use this key legal instrument.

Another milestone in 2007 was the substantial participation of our members in the "1million4disability" campaign of the European Disability Forum. Aiming to strengthen the voice of the disability movement, it legitimised the call for European legislation combating discrimination against disabled people. Without your support the campaign would not have been a success. Thank you!

However, the fight is not yet won: despite the strength of the campaign, the European Union proposed a general non-discrimination Directive, not accounting for the specific needs and situation of disabled people. We now must ensure that the European institutions do not ignore the collective voice of more than 1,2 Million European citizens who demanded a specific Directive against discrimination on grounds of disability.

Combating discrimination leads to championing community living and community based services as alternatives to institutions for people with disabilities. The report on "Deinstitutionalisation and Community Living – outcomes and costs" is a remarkable publication to this end, financed by the European Commission and undertaken by the Tizard Centre, University of Kent (http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/index/7002_en.html). Inclusion Europe was involved in the project reference group.

Prof. Jim Mansell speaking at the final conference called for:

- "Vision and leadership by national and regional governments, working in close collaboration with representatives of users and their families;
- A comprehensive, long-term perspective, considering all costs and benefits of transition;
- Creative solutions to implementation problems and learning as experience and knowledge are gained.
- A comparison to be made on the basis of comparable needs of residents and comparable quality of care, to demonstrate that services in the community will be no more expensive than institutions."

I encourage you to continue helping to reduce the number of places where people with intellectual disabilities are isolated and in which people are not allowed to exercise control over their lives and day-to-day decisions.

We all recognise that Education for All is a starting point and the key for social inclusion. Therefore, Inclusion Europe has made this issue the main topic of its next annual conference. I am looking forward to seeing you in Vienna in April 2008!

Ingrid Körner
President

| EXCHANGE

To exchange experience and good practices with others is always good. It helps to make better policies for people with intellectual disabilities. It helps to develop good practices in all our countries. In 2007, Inclusion Europe organised many activities for our members to exchange and hear about those good practices.

- 1 During our congress Europe in Action 2007, we heard that guardianship systems can be bad for people with Intellectual Disability. People with intellectual disabilities should be supported when making choices but they should keep all their rights.
- 2 A seminar on Women and intellectual disabilities was also organised. Speakers shared their experiences about violence and discrimination.
- 3 A seminar on the UN Convention took place in Prague for the leaders of the Inclusion movement. They discussed how to implement this important new law in each country.
- 4 A European conference on deinstitutionalisation was organised. It showed that community-based services are not more expensive than institutions. It concluded that governments should set up more services in the community.



Exchange of knowledge and experience with and between our members is a very important objective for Inclusion Europe. There are numerous examples demonstrating how the exchange of good practice and new concepts has led to the development of better policies and practices for people with intellectual disabilities and their families at both national and European levels. Our members participate regularly in these exchange activities and find them very beneficial for their work.

"Lack of legal capacity means that your human rights are violated!", "The existing guardianship system has very negative consequences for the people." Those are some of the problems identified during the conference **"Europe in Action 2007 - Citizen's rights for all!"**.

Over 250 participants from Europe and abroad took the opportunity to draw public attention to the questions of legal capacity, guardianship or supported decision-making. Video testimonies presented during the conference spoke clearly about the will and desires of people with intellectual disabilities and what the right to decide for themselves means to them: *"I could decide to go to elections and whom to vote for... I would like to decide where to go for holidays... Then it's me who decides when to go to the doctor or what clothes to wear..."* Common life decisions like signing a work contract or getting married are still often denied to persons with intellectual disabilities. In many European countries they are still under guardianship. This impedes them to take decisions and actions that all other citizens can take.

During plenary sessions and in a number of Focus Groups, self-advocates, legal professionals, family members and

policy-makers had the opportunity to discuss and shape principles that can influence legal frameworks and rules. Europe in Action 2007 can therefore be considered as a step towards bringing the ideas of the UN Convention into reality, towards finding the way how to implement them in national legal systems, how to provide people with intellectual disabilities with independent and meaningful support, and how to protect them against abuse.

The most important ideas which came out of the lively discussion have been gathered in the **Conclusions** and the **Resolution** of the conference. Article 12 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities has become a basis for the fundamental demands of the conference participants:

- A legal foundation should be established for a **supported decision making model** that helps disabled people to exercise their rights, distinct and separate from substitute decision-making.
- All States ratifying the Convention should instantly take all necessary steps to build up legal models and networks to give people with intellectual disabilities full access to supported decision-making.

They should do this in close consultation and with active involvement of persons with intellectual disabilities through their representative organisations.

To promote awareness of the situation of women with disabilities and mothers of disabled children, a **seminar about Women and Intellectual Disability** was organized by Inclusion Europe in Warsaw, Poland, on 9 May 2007. About fifty women from different European countries attended the seminar.

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*Training course on management of money SPMP CR
- Inclusion Czech Republic.*

been especially highlighted during the whole seminar as a key element of success.

The full involvement of people with intellectual disabilities and their families in all aspects of the design, management and delivery of support services available in the community is one of the most important aspects for ensuring the value of these services in terms of quality-of-life outcomes. Therefore, Inclusion Europe organised a two-day seminar in Prague in October 2007, '**People with disabilities lead their services**: How can people with intellectual disabilities influence the design and delivery of support services?' Attended by more than 20 participants from 14 different countries, this training seminar provided participants with information about leading examples of good practice from several European countries.

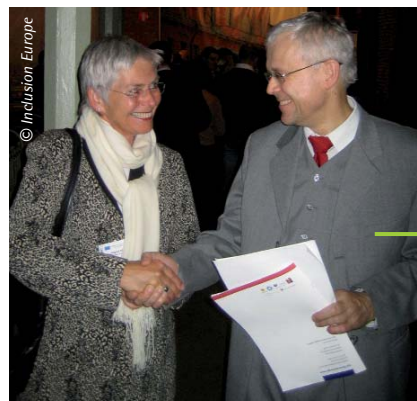
Ulla Topi, former President of EPSA, introduced to the audience a number of speakers from all over Europe who shared their experiences about violence and discrimination. Others presented political strategies leading to the improvement of the present situation. Lydia la Rivière-Zijdel, Board member of the European Women's Lobby, gave an overview about the structure and work of the United Nations and provoked a debate about the UN Convention on disability.

During this event, discussions took place on important topics like involvement of disabled people in the planning of the services, in the staff recruitment or in the evaluation. The legal background was also discussed, and most importantly, the way of organising User Councils: mandates and representation, training and support, power and charter. The outcome of this meeting were draft European Statutes for User Councils in Day Centres, Workshops and Living Facilities for people with intellectual disabilities.

The participants recommended to Inclusion Europe's General Assembly the creation of a Women's Committee within the organisational structure of Inclusion Europe. The suggestion has been accepted and the **Women's Committee** was founded by the end of 2007. The Committee ensures that Inclusion Europe integrates a gender perspective in its work.

An important European conference about **De-institutionalisation and Community-living** took place in Prague. This conference has been organized by the Tizard Centre of the University of Kent in Canterbury in collaboration with Inclusion Europe, the Open Society Mental Health Initiative, the Charles University in Prague and the Centre for Planning and Evaluation of Social Services in Siegen, to present the results of a European study aimed at identifying successful strategies for replacing institutions with community-based services, paying particular attention to economic issues during the transition.

The year 2007 was marked by the adoption of the new Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Inclusion Europe has promoted and explained the key issues of the UN Convention to its member organizations, and its importance for people with disabilities to the general public and to European stakeholders. One of the main activities in 2007 was the organization, in collaboration with Inclusion International, of a **Policy Seminar for Leaders of the Inclusion Movement to develop strategies for the implementation of the UN Convention for People with Intellectual Disabilities and their Organisations**. High-level representatives of disability organizations presented their interpretation of key articles of the Convention. For each topic, the steps towards implementation, and our role in the process, from local to international level, have been discussed. Concrete actions to be undertaken before and after the ratification have been proposed by the participants. The complementary roles of families and self-advocates have



*Ingrid Körner and
Vladimír Špidla, EU
Commissioner for
Employment, Social
Affairs and Equal
Opportunities*

| SUPPORT

During the year 2007, Inclusion Europe supported its members by

- organising 2 study visits:
 - on quality evaluation of services by people with intellectual disabilities
 - on policy engagement for self-advocacy organisations;
- starting a project in Russia on inclusive education;
- running a project in 8 European countries on life-long learning with 10 partners;
- publishing several brochures and position papers;
- giving information on the website and through the e-Include newsletter.

The study visits, projects and brochures help our members to have better knowledge of good policies and practices.

It gives them the possibility to find new partners in Europe.

Finally, it gives them the possibility to meet with people from the European Commission or the European Parliament.



All members of Inclusion Europe benefit directly or indirectly from their membership. In the year 2007, we organised study visits for self-advocates and professionals and published information in different languages. Furthermore, members were invited to participate in projects lead by Inclusion Europe.

The indirect benefits of membership are also important for members in terms of gaining knowledge of innovative policies and practices, the possibility to use the network to find new partners in Europe and the possibility to meet with representatives of the European institutions. These benefits provide our members with a competitive advantage to achieve excellence in their work at national level.

Several members of Inclusion Europe participated on 8 and 9 October 2007 in a Study Visit on quality evaluation of services by people with intellectual disabilities. In Graz, Austria, participants learned and discussed about NUEVA, an outstanding model of service evaluation developed by the association atempo.

Participants of the Study Visit were impressed by the evaluation tool that is systematically constructed on the experiences of the people living in the facilities, rather than on outside views of professionals, parents or government representatives. **"It is transparent, visible and gives persons with intellectual disabilities the power to influence policies of service providers"** said Senada Halilcevic, a member of the Croatian Association for Self-Advocacy. A document on "Principles and Recommendations for the Board of Inclusion Europe" has been written as a follow-up of this event.

From 18 to 22 November 2007, the European Platform of Self-Advocates organized a study visit to Scotland about **"Our lives, our policies! Policy engagement for Self-Advocacy organisations"**. Six self-advocacy organisations sent representatives. The participants to this event had the opportunity to:

- hear about successful projects and activities;
- learn new ideas about policy engagement;
- learn how they could better engage in the policy of their country;
- learn how their self-advocacy group can become more powerful;
- know better what other self-advocacy organisations are doing in Europe in terms of policy engagement;
- present some of the campaigns they created with their self-advocacy groups; and
- visit the Scottish Parliament and the Glasgow city chambers and meet high-level politicians.

Inclusion Europe will continue to organise Study Visits to countries with models of good practice for its members.

In 2007, Inclusion Europe also started its first project in Russia, in collaboration with Perspektiva, a Russian national umbrella organization. This capacity-building project in the field of **inclusive education** aims to empower parents of children with intellectual disabilities to become activists in their communities. A first introductory training session took place in Moscow. The concept of inclusive education and the role of parents in their local context were discussed. The parents could hear about experiences from Germany, but also from their own country. The training also included advocacy and

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Study Visit in Scotland on Policy Engagement for Self-Advocacy Organisations.

presentation skills, to learn how to defend and fight for their projects and ideas.

To acquire concrete examples of good practice, a study visit to the Sophie Scholl School in Giessen, Germany, was organised. The parents had the opportunity to meet with the school director, teachers, assistants, school staff as well as with parents. They could also attend lessons. The visit was very successful and raised a lot of questions, interests and enthusiasm.

Finally, a second training session took place in Nizhniy Novgorod, Russia. Parents were taught to lead training on inclusive education for educators, local officials and professionals as well as to work effectively with media. Parents also learned how to lead a peer support group to give them the opportunity to develop long term strategies for inclusive education in their own communities once the project has ended.

For people with intellectual disabilities, **lifelong learning** is not only about learning new skills or vocational training, it is also about being included in society, being able to represent themselves and to take more control of their daily life and future. Adult education is especially important for people with learning disabilities as they require constant re-training of skills enabling social inclusion.

One of the main barriers for people with intellectual disabilities to access these programmes is the lack of accessible adult training and information material in easy-to-understand language. Therefore, Inclusion Europe submitted a project proposal aiming at improving the accessibility of life-long learning programmes in eight European countries (Austria, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Lithuania, Portugal and Scotland). The funding of this project has been approved by the European Commission.

This project **Pathways to Adult Education for People with Intellectual Disabilities** will be developed in two phases. The first phase aims at setting up European Easy-to-Read Standards for adult education and e-learning material. In

the second phase, building on the standards developed, the partnership of the Pathways project will aim at making lifelong learning programmes more accessible for adults with intellectual disabilities through the development of three tools: a checklist that assesses the easy-to-read level of different adult and e-learning materials; a methodology on how people with intellectual disabilities can be involved in writing and/or reviewing easy-to-read learning content; and a template on how to teach the staff of adult education or e-learning providers to prepare easy-to-read learning material. The results of the Pathways Project will be made available on the internet in the languages of the participating countries.

In the framework of our projects, we regularly publish **brochures and Position Papers**. They are used to support member societies in lobbying their national or regional authorities. Some of our brochures are written in easy-to-read language and are especially appreciated by those members who otherwise do not have access to this kind of information. In 2007, Inclusion Europe issued the following new publications:

- Human Rights of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities – Country Report Croatia (in easy-to-read Croatian and English)
- Human Rights of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities – Country Report Bosnia-Herzegovina (in Bosnian and English)
- "Towards Inclusive Education" - Examples of Good Practices of Inclusive Education (in English and French)
- User Councils in Disability Services – Recommendations for Good Practice (in English and French)
- Change: A journey to inclusion (in English, German, Bulgarian and Russian)
- INCLUDE, two issues focusing on legal capacity and community living (in English)

These publications complement the existing extensive publications program of Inclusion Europe in most European languages. The publications strategy will be developed further in the coming years.

Information about European Union policies, structures and financing, about news from our member organizations were regularly provided via e-Include on Inclusion Europe's website at www.e-include.eu. This information helps members of Inclusion Europe to understand how decisions at European level can influence their work, how they can react accordingly and benefit from EU policy and funding opportunities. This tool also helps our members to share their experiences and be informed about the projects of colleagues from different parts of Europe.

| INFLUENCE

Disability policies should be made according to the needs of people with intellectual disabilities.

Unfortunately, this is not always the case.

Inclusion Europe want to influence European and international disability policies.

We want to make sure that they are made according to the needs of people with intellectual disabilities.

Inclusion Europe did this during the year 2007 by

- Leading a study on the risks of discrimination against people with complex needs;
- Analysing the Human Rights situation of people with intellectual disabilities in Croatia and in Bosnia-Herzegovina;
- Supporting the publication of a book showing the change from institutions to community-based services in Bulgaria;
- Supporting the European Coalition for Community Living and the seminar it organised;
- Attending a conference on how to implement the Disability Action Plan in 7 South and Eastern European countries.



Influencing European and international disability policy according to the needs of people with intellectual disabilities, their families and their organisations is the ultimate objective of Inclusion Europe. Providing a representative view from all EU Member States, Inclusion Europe is involved in policy discussions with its members and tries to achieve common positions. Influencing European disability policy, Inclusion Europe maintains excellent contacts with Members of the European Parliament, the services of the European Commission, various European disability NGOs and the Council of Europe.

The year 2007 saw the bulk of the work on the **"Study on the Specific Risks of Discrimination against Persons in Situations of Major Dependence or with Complex Needs"** financed by the European Commission. National Research Experts studied the situation of people with severe disabilities and/or complex needs in 12 European countries and concurred in National Reports that these people are at greater risk of discrimination in all European countries and in all areas of life. Behind these discrimination risks lie negative attitudes, lack of support services and the assumption that these people cannot take over socially accepted roles as children, young people or adults in mainstream society.

Besides the 12 National Reports, interviews were conducted with over 40 decision-makers at national and European level evaluating their opinions on ways to address the problem. Case studies of people with different severe disabilities and/or complex needs provided illustrations of the abilities of these people and the discrimination they often face because of their disabilities.

Finally, numerous examples of good practice were gathered to demonstrate how inclusive service provision can help these people to live lives included in society.

Following this, the Policy Committee of the Study will analyse the data and propose European Policy Recommendations on how the discrimination can be addressed. The results of which will be available on the European Commission website alongside the final conference in June 2008.

In collaboration with national partners and financed by Aktion Mensch, Germany, Inclusion Europe studied the **Human Rights** situation of people with intellectual disabilities in Croatia and in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

In **Croatia**, self-advocates conducted research in 11 important fields of life among their peers. The results provide an insight into lives of people with intellectual disabilities with access to some community-based services, many having lived in large residential institutions. The results show that people with intellectual disabilities lack opportunities to be fully included in society with many still living in large residential institutions. This is largely a result of insufficient access to mainstream services and a lack of inclusive community-based support services. The report was complemented by an analysis of the legislation and availability of community-based support services for people with intellectual disabilities in Croatia. This analysis confirms that community-based support services in inclusive settings are only available for a very small number of persons with intellectual disabilities, mainly in larger cities.

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The report was presented in Brussels to representatives of the European institutions and launched in Croatia after the national elections. The report was welcomed in Brussels, where the European Commission restated its commitment to support the de-institutionalisation process and urged the Croatia to implement its political decisions.

In **Bosnia and Herzegovina**, almost no data was available in many crucial areas. The authors could include information about large residential institutions only after visiting them. Community-based support services are almost non-existent. Day-care centres are sometimes organised within special schools and some services are provided by NGOs. However, professional services for adults are sparse. When families cannot care for their disabled members, there is often no alternative to large residential institutions. The report about this research will be presented both in Brussels and in Sarajevo at the beginning of 2008.

Supporting the change from large residential institutions to community-based services in a practical way, Inclusion Europe cooperated with its members BAPID in Bulgaria, Lebenshilfe Vienna and our past President John O'Gorman in the production of the book "**Change**", which shows the transition process by means of a pictorial journey. Although many institutions remain in Bulgaria that violate the human rights of people with intellectual disabilities in unimaginable ways, the publication shows that with dedication and direction, change is possible in difficult situations.

The publication provides a pictorial explanation of the positive impact of change in services and facilities on people with intellectual disabilities. The book with text in Bulgarian, English, Russian and German will be used by Inclusion Europe and its members to support training and activities to promote de-institutionalisation europe-wide.

Supported by Inclusion Europe, the **European Coalition for Community Living** organised its second annual seminar on 20 - 21 April 2007 in Zagreb, Croatia, in cooperation with our member, the Association for Promoting Inclusion. The focus of the seminar was on the involvement of people with disabilities in the development, provision and evaluation of quality community-based services. The seminar aimed to provide examples of good practice in providing community-based services and de-institutionalisation, and challenge participants in their thinking and organisation of community-based services.

The seminar assembled close to 130 participants from across Europe, including around 50 participants from Croatia. Among them were representatives of disability organisations, people with disabilities, service providers, government officials and representatives of other state bodies. Croatia's Assistant Minister of Social Welfare Dragutin Keserica addressed the participants at the opening.

The seminar called on ECCL to continue advocating community-based alternatives to institutions in Central and Eastern Europe, but also, other parts of Europe. The crucial importance of all the stakeholders working together was highlighted, recognising the important role played by people with disabilities. All seminar participants supported the Seminar Statement available at ECCL's website at www.community-living.info.

Inclusion Europe was represented at a **Conference on the Council of Europe Disability Action Plan** in September 2007 in Zagreb, Croatia. The Action Plan, launched last year at a European Conference in St. Petersburg, aimed to establish a shift in approaches, attitudes and policies concerning people with disabilities. Running from 2006-2015 and divided into fifteen key action lines each with its own objectives to be implemented with special attention to people who experience multiple discrimination or exclusion.

The focus of the Croatian conference was on national implementation processes in the South and Eastern European region. During the conference, Croatia, Albania, Austria, Moldova, Serbia, Slovenia and Macedonia presented the situation in their respective countries. All of them, except for Moldova, have drafted national action plans implementing the Council of Europe Action Plan. However, implementation is in its early stages. In some of the countries exclusion occurs due to the overlap of project scopes.

The main outcome was the adoption of the **Zagreb Declaration**. The document recalls the principles of the Action Plan, it recommends bridging the gap between policy and practice, and supports awareness-raising initiatives targeted at the importance of full inclusion of people with disabilities.

The **European Year of Equal Opportunities for All** (EYEOA) celebrated in 2007 included several important events in Brussels and Member States. Since the activities in the framework of this European Year started with delays and the visibility was neither constant nor well balanced in the different countries, the overall impact was regrettably not as important as in previous European Years. However, Inclusion Europe and other NGOs promoted the year in their activities and kept their members informed about all relevant activities. We hope that the European Union can draw upon some positive past experiences in order to ensure a better success of the Year 2010 dedicated to the fight against Poverty and Social Exclusion.



THE EUROPEAN PLATFORM OF SELF-ADVOCATES

In 2007, the European Platform of Self-Advocates (EPSA) worked in 4 areas:

1. Tell others about our abilities
2. Help self-advocacy groups at local level
3. Promote accessible Information
4. Promote EPSA and increase EPSA's membership

1. Tell others about our abilities

In October 2007, Andrew Doyle went to a conference in Greece.

He is the President of EPSA. He gave a speech for parents and professionals.

He told them about the importance of self-advocacy.

Zdenka Petrovic from Croatia spoke in Geneva at the United Nations.

She spoke about the problems of legal capacity in some countries.

EPSA also participated in 2 training sessions for self-advocates during the year 2007.

2. Help self-advocacy groups at local level

To help self-advocacy groups at local level, we need to know what their problems are. Therefore, the Steering Group made a questionnaire.

This questionnaire was given to members during the General Meeting 2007.

The results show what kind of problems self-advocacy groups are facing at local and national level.

The Steering Group will base the Work Plan 2008-2010 on these results.

3. Promote Accessible Information

To tell people how to speak with decision-makers, we published a training pack in 2006.

This training pack was distributed and used by many self-advocacy organizations in 2007.

Moreover, EPSA organised a study visit to Scotland in November 2007.

Participants learned how to speak with politicians.

More and more parents associations have part of their website in easy-to-read language.

We also organized 2 other important events:

- A training session in October 2007 in Prague on User Involvement.
- A study visit in October 2007 in Austria on Quality Evaluation.

4. Promote EPSA and increase EPSA's membership

At the General Meeting 2007 EPSA welcomed 4 new members.

We also used our publication to keep the link between all our members.

4 issues of "Europe for Us" were written in 2007.

EPSA was also very well represented at International level.

Zdenka Petrovic participated at some very important meetings, for example with the World Health Organisation or with the International Disability Alliance.



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FINANCIAL REPORT 2007

The financial situation of Inclusion Europe has become better in 2007.
We have received a little more money than what we have spent.
We have received money from our members for self-advocacy.
We are very grateful for this support.
We also received money for projects.
2007 we got much support from the European Commission.
Our Auditor said that everything is ok with our bookkeeping.



In the financial year 2007, Inclusion Europe has been able to recover from the significant financial loss that occurred in 2006. This was possible due to a strict cost-cutting policy and the financial support of some of our members for the self-advocacy work of the association. In the name of Inclusion Europe and of the European Platform of Self-Advocates I would like to express my sincere thanks to the following members who have been especially supportive: Inclusion Ireland, Landsforeningen LEV (Denmark), Enable (Scotland), NFU (Norway), FEAPS (Spain), Lebenshilfe Austria, Insieme (Switzerland), Lebenshilfe Vienna (Austria), ANAHM (Belgium) and Lebenshilfe Germany.

Structural savings that are implemented in the budget for the year 2008 and beyond ensure that Inclusion Europe has again secured a viable and stable financial structure. Sound financial management and control are exercised to meet requirements of funders and members. The association has also started to build reserves that will allow to provide for a potential loss that may occur once the bankruptcy of our former member organisation in the Netherlands has been closed.

Inclusion Europe has been successful in securing a framework financial agreement with the European

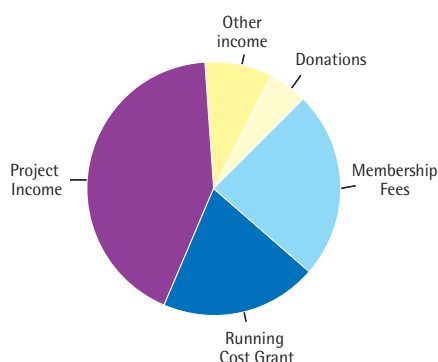
Commission that ensures continuing financing for our running costs in the framework of a triennial Strategic Plan from 2008 to 2010. This provides for additional financial stability.

The External Auditor of Inclusion Europe has certified that our bookkeeping fully meets all Belgian and European Commission standards and requirements. Our accounting system is fully geared to ensure an effective and efficient financial reporting and control of complex European projects.

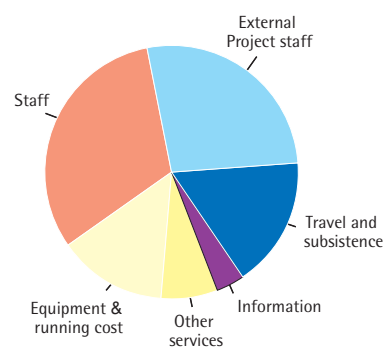
Finally, I would like to express my sincere thanks to all our members, who have paid in 2007 again more than 95% of all due fees: this shows a real commitment to the work of Inclusion Europe! Furthermore, my thanks go to individual donors, to the European Commission and to the Open Society Mental Health Initiative for their support of different activities at European level for people with intellectual disabilities and their families.

Jerry Buttimer, Treasurer

Income 2007
626.087,83 €



Expenditure 2007
625.999,58 €





Inclusion Europe has 58 member societies. They are organisations of persons with intellectual disabilities and/or their families and friends. They are working at national, regional or local level. They are working for the interests of persons with intellectual disabilities. Some members of Inclusion Europe are working at European level.



- **Austria** - Lebenshilfe Österreich www.lebenshilfe.at, Lebenshilfe Wien www.dielebenshilfe.at
- **Belgium** - ANAHM/NVHVG www.anahm.be
Mouvement Personne d'Abord
<http://users.swing.be/Personne.dAbord/>
- **Bulgaria** - BAPID www.bapid.com
- **Croatia** - Association for Promoting Inclusion www.inkluzija.hr
Association for Self-Advocacy www.samozastupanje.hr
Croatian Association of Societies for Persons with Mental Retardation
- **Cyprus** - Pancyprrian Parents Assoc. for People with Mental Handicap
- **Czech Republic** - Inclusion Czech Republic www.spmprcz.cz
Sebeobhajci Praha
- **Denmark** - Landesforeningen LEV www.lev.dk
Udviklingshemmedes Landsforbund www.ulf-web.dk
- **Estonia** - Estonian Mentally Disabled People Support Organisation www.vaimukad.ee EVPIT Self-Advocacy Group
- **Europe** - European Co-operation in Anthroposophical Curative Education and Social Therapy (ECCE) www.ecce.eu
- **Faroe Islands** - Javni www.javni.fo
- **Finland** - FDUV www.fduv.fi, Kehitysvammaisten Tukiliitto ry www.kvtl.fi, Me Itse ry www.kvtl.fi/meitse Steg för Steg ry www.fduv.fi/stegforsteg
- **France** - UNAPEI www.unapei.org, Nous Aussi
- **Germany** - Bundesvereinigung Lebenshilfe für Menschen mit geistiger Behinderung e.V. www.lebenshilfe.de
Der Rat behinderter Menschen der Bundesvereinigung Lebenshilfe
- **Greece** - Panhellenic Federation of Parents and Guardians of Disabled People - www.posgamea.gr
- **Hungary** - EFOESZ www.foesz.hu
EFOESZ Self-Advocacy Group www.foesz.hu
- **Iceland** - National Federation for the Handicapped www.throskahjalp.is
- **Ireland** - Inclusion Ireland www.inclusionireland.ie
Union on the Hill Self-Advocacy
- **Israel** - AKIM Israel www.akim.org.il
- **Italy** - ANFFAS www.anffas.net
- **Latvia** - Rupju Berns www.saule-rb.lv
Rupju Berns - Latvian Self-Advocacy Movement
- **Lithuania** - Lithuanian Welfare Society for Persons with Mental Disability www.viltis.lt
- **Luxembourg** - APEMH www.apemh.lu
Ligue HMC www.ligue-hmc.lu
- **Macedonia** - Republic Center for Helping Persons with Mental Handicap www.poraka.org.mk
- **Malta** - Movement in Favour of Rights for Persons with Disability - Down Syndrome Association
- **Moldova** - Humanitas Association www.humanitas.info.md
- **Netherlands** - Stichting VB Belang www.vgbelang.nl
- **Norway** - NFU Norwegian Association for Persons with Developmental Disabilities www.nfunorge.org
NFU Self-Advocacy Group
- **Poland** - Polish Association for Persons with Mental Handicap www.psouu.org.pl/eng/
- **Portugal** - HUMANITAS www.humanitas.pt; FENACERCI www.fenacerci.pt
- **Romania** - Romania Inclusiva www.pentruvoi.ro/romania_inclusiva_en.htm
- **Scotland** - ENABLE Scotland www.enable.org.uk
ENABLE ACE Committee
- **Slovakia** - Association for Help to People with Mental Handicap (ZPMPVSR) www.zpmpvsr.sk
- **Slovenia** - Sožitje www.zveza-sozitie.si,
Centre Dolfke Bostjancic Draga
- **Spain** - FEAPS www.feaps.org
- **Sweden** - FUB www.fub.se, Rikssektionen Klippan www.grunden.nu
- **Switzerland** - INSIEME www.insieme.ch
- **United Kingdom** - Mencap www.mencap.org.uk

Our allies

Inclusion Europe closely collaborates with several organisations. We can count on their support and work for similar objectives at European and international level.

Inclusion International:
www.inclusion-international.org

European Disability Forum:
www.edf-feph.org

European Social Platform:
www.socialplatform.org

Open Society Mental Health Initiative:
www.soros.org/initiatives/mhi

European Co-operation in Anthroposophical Curative Education and Social Therapy:
www.ecce.eu

Inclusion Europe receives the support of the European Commission for several of its initiatives. The information contained in this publication does not necessarily reflect the position or opinion of the European Commission.

10-12 April 2008

Europe in Action 2008

Education for All

Policies and practices supporting the implementation of Inclusive Education for all
(Vienna, Austria)

www.EuropeInAction.org

■
14-17 April 2008

Special Workshop and Study Visit on Inclusive Education

(Graz, Austria)

www.inclusion-europe.org

■
Autumn 2008

Training Seminar on Women and Intellectual Disability

(Prague, Czech Republic)

www.inclusion-europe.org

■
Autumn 2008

Study Visit on Best Practice in Services for People with Complex Needs

(Sweden)

www.inclusion-europe.org

■
25-27 June 2009

Europe in Action 2009

My Life: full participation and equality!

(Tampere, Finland)

www.EuropeInAction.org

www.kvtl.fi/mylife

Annual Report
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