

# Annual Report 2008

Inclusion Europe



Respect Solidarity Inclusion Inclusion Respect Solidarity Respect Solidarity Inclusion Respect Solidarity Inclusion Respect Solidarity Inclusion



**Inclusion Europe**

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



Ingrid Körner is the President of Inclusion Europe. She talks about 3 important things that happened in 2008:

- 1** Many countries signed the UN Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities. They now have to respect it. The European Union has also signed it.
- 2** Inclusion Europe worked to help more people with disabilities to have the same education as everyone else.
- 3** A study was done by Inclusion Europe to get more support for people with complex needs.



The year 2008 has been a unique year for the whole disability movement with the United Nations Convention for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) entering into force on 3 May 2008. In addition, the European Commission adopted the proposal for a Council decision to ratify this Convention: for the first time in history the European Union will be party to an international Convention.

Throughout the whole year, Inclusion Europe has been successful in raising the importance of the UN Convention for people with intellectual disabilities, especially on the issue of legal capacity. The Position Paper on "Key elements of a system for supported decision-making" has been welcomed by our members and by other organisations, who have also adopted it. While some parents, friends and professionals still had doubts and fears about the model of supported decision-making, the work of Inclusion Europe brought forth a lot of changes and discussion, therefore opening new doors for activities in this field. This work on legal capacity will continue in the coming years, as it is a big challenge not only for people with intellectual disabilities but also for families, professionals and all people who work and live with them.

I am also pleased to report on the success of the work of Inclusion Europe in the field of inclusive education, one of the key topics for 2008 and the starting point of inclusion for people with intellectual disabilities. The Europe in Action 2008 congress in Vienna and the Study Visit in Graz, both on the topic of inclusive education, have been applauded for their high quality and their practical features. The concept of "inclusive education" was broken down into many concrete actions and steps, and the two events have been very fruitful for all participants, thus supporting equally countries which are less and those which are more advanced in implementing inclusive education.

In spring 2008, Inclusion Europe released the Commission-financed study on the "Specific Risks of Discrimination Against Persons in Situation of Major Dependence or with Complex Needs". Thanks to these results, Inclusion Europe has had particular success in highlighting the needs and potentials of people with severe disabilities and complex needs. Due to a collection of best practices, the study offers not only policy conclusions, but also concrete examples of services for people with severe disabilities and complex needs in six different fields and areas of life.

A source of concern for our movement in 2008 was the proposed European general non-discrimination Directive that did not reach our expectations. Inclusion Europe influenced the discussion of the proposed horizontal Directive for the benefit of people with intellectual disabilities and their families. Together with other NGOs, Inclusion Europe provided input for substantive amendments to the draft Directive and reiterates its position in favour of a strong anti-discrimination Directive. This will be a big challenge for 2009!

Finally, I would like to say a big "Thank you!" to everyone who has supported Inclusion Europe during 2008.

Ingrid Körner  
President



## | EXCHANGE

It is good to share experiences and ideas with each other.  
It helps to make better policies for people with intellectual disabilities.  
It helps to develop good practices in all countries.  
In 2008, Inclusion Europe organised some events to help people exchange best practices:

- 1 “Europe in Action 2008”, on how people with intellectual disabilities can attend the same school as everyone else.
- 2 A conference on people with disabilities and complex needs to make sure people in Europe listen to their wishes and needs.
- 3 A new project aiming at training people with intellectual disabilities to look at services and to see if people using these services are happy or not.



The exchange of knowledge and experience plays a vital role in the work of Inclusion Europe. Regular meetings and activities stimulate the development of new ideas and best practices, promoting mutual learning and paving the way for improved policies and practices for people with intellectual disabilities and their families, both at national and European level.

One of the key issues addressed in 2008 was **inclusive education**. This was the main focus of the **Europe in Action congress 2008 'Education for All!'** in Vienna, attended by people from all over Europe and North America. The subject of the conference was made all the more relevant by Article 24 of the newly ratified UN Convention which makes States Parties responsible for creating “an inclusive education system at all levels”. Starting from the legal basis

of the Convention, the conference looked at what inclusive education is, what is needed to make the transition, and how to deliver the transition by influencing politicians, teachers, parents and pupils, and inevitably, what concrete actions must be taken towards making inclusive education a reality.

The session opened with discussions on the legal obligations of European countries for delivering a quality education. With the advent of the new UN Convention, integrative education is no longer enough, and preparations must be made for inclusive education. The recurrent theme underlying the discussions on inclusive education was the 'celebration of diversity': every child is valued as an individual and as part of the whole. Consequently, it was asserted that society itself can



*Ivo Vykydal,  
Secretary General of  
Inclusion Europe with  
Jan Jařab, Member of  
the Cabinet of  
Commissioner Špidla  
at the Conference on  
Complex Needs*



reproduce this inclusive setting beyond the school gates – thus spreading the positive benefits of diversity to the wider community. Discussions then progressed from what inclusive education is, to what structural changes need to be made to current education systems. Initial teacher training emerged as being of primary importance for delivering a quality inclusive education. Within the classroom itself, teaching assistants were seen as playing a crucial role in the success of inclusive education. It was noted that parents and families must be fully involved in the education system. Peer learning through mentor schemes was mentioned as an appropriate way of providing a social education for all children. The need for a more flexible approach towards inclusive education was highlighted, for example by having smaller groups, mixed age classes, or adjusting learning materials to fit different learning abilities.

Finally, the discussions turned to how changes could be made at the next level. Influencing policy-makers could be done through strategies such as networking and positive representations of men and women with disabilities being advertised in the media. Everyone has a role to play and thus each person left the conference with their own action plan to follow up.

Another important issue addressed in 2008 was that of discrimination. The final conference of the Commission-financed **Study on the "Specific Risks of Discrimination Against Persons in Situation of Major Dependence or with Complex Needs"** was held in June, attended by over 60 participants from many European countries. The conference was opened by Inclusion Europe's President-elect Ivo Vykydal and Head of the Commission's Disability Unit, Johan ten Geuzendam. They emphasised that specific action is necessary to include people with severe disabilities and complex needs fully in all relevant EU and national policies. European policy experts representing various disability NGOs highlighted that people with complex needs are not expressly excluded from policies at European and national level, but that de facto the assumption prevails that most policies are not meant for this group of people. The study has thus developed recommendations in many fields of European and national policies, culminating in a proposal for a European Action Plan. This plan calls for a strategic use of existing legislation and opportunities for putting severe disabilities and complex needs on both European and national agendas. In the animated discussions, participants all expressed support for the conclusions of the study. Jan Jařab' from Commissioner Špidla's cabinet expressed the European Commission's satisfaction with the results of the study. He emphasised that the study

had identified various Community policies and programmes that should be made inclusive for people with severe disabilities and complex needs.

One specific area in which people with disabilities should be more included is in the provision of services. December 2008 saw the launch of a **new joint initiative** by Inclusion Europe and atempo, Austria, to give people with intellectual disabilities a say in the quality of the services they use. With the aid of an existing model currently in use in Austria; Nueva (German for "users evaluate"), the new initiative aims to give people with intellectual disabilities the opportunity to define and evaluate the quality of services from a user perspective. It takes into account the fact that users of social services – especially people with intellectual disabilities – are often in a disadvantaged position, because

- they do not have a strong voice to state their needs and wishes
- they often have a significant lack of information
- they often have little possibility of making their own decisions
- they are not seen as customers
- there is a lack of valid methods to evaluate the output-quality of services.

One of the specificities of Nueva is that users are not only involved in the definition of quality and as interviewees, but also that trained self-advocates are the main actors in the evaluation process. Today, Nueva looks back at the experience of over 2,600 evaluation interviews in Austria since 2004.

Within the UNIQ project, started in December 2008 and running until August 2010, the transferability of the Nueva model to other countries will be tested practically and a framework will be developed to ease this transfer.



## | SUPPORT

It is important that we support each other. Together we can achieve more.

In 2008, Inclusion Europe supported people with intellectual disabilities and their families by:

- organising 2 study visits:
  - one on inclusive education for people with intellectual disabilities.
  - and one on supporting people with complex needs.
- continuing work on inclusive education
- developing a project on easy-to-read texts to make lifelong learning programmes more accessible for people with intellectual disabilities.
- publishing several brochures and position papers.
- putting information on the website and on the e-Include newsletter for members and other people to read.

The study visits, projects and brochures help participants to learn more about good policies and practices.

It helps them to find new partners to work with in Europe.

It also helps them to meet people from the European Commission and the European Parliament.



Throughout the year 2008, Inclusion Europe organised several study visits, projects and publications. The vast network of information and contacts Inclusion Europe has acquired over the years allows participants to gain knowledge of innovative policies and practices, and opens the door to networking opportunities, enabling contacts to be made throughout Europe and with members of the European institutions.

In the area of inclusive education, Inclusion Europe, together with Lebenshilfe Vienna and Lebenshilfe Styria, organised a **workshop in Graz, Austria**, in April 2008. The aim was to see



how inclusive education works in practice in Austria and how it could be developed in each participant's own country. The event attracted over 60 selected participants, from more than 15 countries. The workshop participants visited nine schools in and around Graz. Each school had its own specific challenges with its own solutions, and all schools involved served as examples that inclusive education is a work in progress. For this reason, not every school had achieved full inclusion, however, they did demonstrate the beginnings of inclusive thinking. Each class provided support through assistants, who were available to help children with disabilities but also provided extra classroom support to benefit all pupils. In cases where special assistance was required, there were specially trained physical supporters. At the end of the visit, the participants created 'National Action Plans for Inclusion' to take what had been learnt from the workshop and put it into action.

As a follow-up of the "Study on the Specific Risks of Discrimination Against Persons in Situation of Major Dependence or with Complex Needs", Inclusion Europe organised another **study visit to Sweden** in November 2008. It gave participants the opportunity to observe examples of good practice of support to persons with severe disabilities and/or complex needs, and to receive recommendations from participants for Inclusion Europe's future policies in the field. Participants came from France,

# Annual Report 2008

## Inclusion Europe

### SUPPORT

Lithuania, Luxembourg and Romania. They were welcomed by Elaine Johansson, founder and director of the Eldorado Centre in Gothenburg, which provides regular support for people with severe disabilities, whilst also providing training for staff. After a short introduction to the Swedish care system for disabled people, there was a more technical intervention on means of communication for people without language. A whole range of creative techniques was introduced, including the use of signs, gestures, sounds, colours, smells and music. New technologies are also widely used. Following the visit to the Eldorado Centre, participants were invited to two day-care centres for people with complex needs. They are run in small units, with an external team for rehabilitations, to train the staff.

Finally, participants visited a shared home for people with severe and multiple disabilities. Each person has his/her own flat within the house, and individual planning is regularly organised and evaluated. Sweden has an exceptional system in Europe, thus participants took away many valuable ideas about how to support people with disabilities in their own countries.

Throughout 2008, efforts to empower the parents of children with disabilities continued. Perspektiva, a Russian umbrella organisation, worked together with Inclusion Europe to organise further **training sessions on Inclusive Education** to encourage parents of children with intellectual disabilities to become activists in their own communities. The training sessions focused on enhancing the ability of parents to promote inclusive education in their communities, while learning from the experiences of other countries to promote inclusive education, through Inclusion Europe's experts. The parents developed new strategies for promoting inclusive education to members of the community; mainly learning better lobbying skills, and were advised on how to better negotiate with education authorities, school administrators and teaching staff. They also learnt about fundraising ideas to continue financing their activities. Finally, the parents were taught new ways of leading parent peer support groups more effectively. In addition, the director of "Perspektiva" and coordinator of the project in Nizhny Novgorod, also mother to a disabled child, presented their experiences of promoting inclusion at Europe in Action 2008.

Meanwhile, progress continues on the project '**Pathways to adult education for people with intellectual disabilities**', which aims to improve access to lifelong learning schemes by creating a set of European easy-to-read standards for adult education and e-learning materials. Throughout 2008, four project meetings took place in Brussels and were attended by the project partners from across Europe.

At these meetings, a set of European standards to make information easy to read and understand was developed. The group also discussed and further advanced three additional tools for easy-to-read language:

- Training for lifelong learning staff on how to write documents which are easy to read and understand
- A methodology on how to involve people with intellectual disabilities in the writing of texts which are easy to read
- A Checklist to test the accessibility level of an easy-to-read text

In addition, the group agreed to produce a fifth tool, comprising recommendations for lifelong learning staff on how to make their courses more accessible. The European easy-to-read standards and other publications will be ready for publishing in June 2009, when the results of the project will be presented at the 'Europe in Action' conference in Tampere, Finland.

You can find out more about the 'Pathways' project at <http://www.life-long-learning.eu>

Within the framework of our projects, we regularly publish **brochures and Position Papers**. In 2008, three important papers were adopted at the General Assembly and have been disseminated among the relevant European and national organisations. Easy-to-read versions have been produced and the position papers have been translated into numerous European languages:

- Key Elements for a System of Supported Decision-making
- European Statutes for User Councils in Special Services for People with Intellectual Disabilities
- Children with Intellectual Disabilities and their Families

Furthermore, Inclusion Europe issued the following new publications:

- The Specific Risks of Discrimination Against Persons in Situation of Major Dependence or with Complex Needs
  - Volume 1 – Policy Recommendations
  - Volume 2 – Research and Analysis
  - Volume 3 – Country Reports and Stakeholder Interviews
  - Volume 4 – Examples of Good Practice (in English with summaries in French and German)
- Include, two issues, one on inclusive education and one on people with complex needs as well as on discrimination (in English)

Information about European Union policies and about news from our member organisations is regularly provided via our online journal e-Include at [www.e-Include.eu](http://www.e-Include.eu).

## I INFLUENCE

People should always think about the needs of people with intellectual disabilities when they make a new policy or law which will affect them. This is written in the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Unfortunately this does not always happen.

So Inclusion Europe wants to influence all policies so that they take the needs of people with intellectual disabilities into account.

Inclusion Europe did this in 2008 for example by:

- doing a study about people with complex needs. The study aims to tell people that people with complex needs should have the same opportunities as everyone else.
- starting a new training project. This project would make sure that organisations know how to put into practice the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.



With the landmark adoption of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2006, it is now vital to ensure that the voices of people with disabilities and their families are heard, not only in European and international disability policies, but in all policies which affect them. Inclusion Europe involves all Member States of the European Union in policy discussions and strives to achieve common positions. It has built up valuable contacts with members of the European Institutions and other European disability NGOs to influence policy-making.

In 2008, Inclusion Europe finalized the **implementation of the important Study on the Specific Risks of Discrimination Against Persons in Situation of Major Dependence or with Complex Needs** for the European Commission. The policy recommendations developed by the study are the result of extensive research and analysis carried out across Europe throughout 2007. The comparative analysis of twelve National Reports demonstrates that people with severe disabilities and/or complex needs are one of the most excluded groups of citizens in the European Union, often spending their lives with insufficient support at home with their families or in large residential institutions. Comparative research identified the perception of a person with severe disabilities or complex needs as being incapable of taking on socially accepted mainstream roles in life. This perception goes together with prejudices and negative attitudes against this group of people and their families, who often experience discrimination by association.

The Study analysed in detail five specific aspects of discrimination:

- availability and accessibility of services
- biographical transitions
- empowerment, self-advocacy and participation
- access to personalised service delivery and individual budgets
- lack of intersectoral cooperation in service delivery

The Policy Committee of the study then developed recommendations for action at European and national level. The study clarifies that people with severe disabilities must be fully included as citizens with full human rights and equal opportunities in all European and national policies.

Inclusion Europe is committed to continuing cooperation with our colleagues and to extending the network of people interested in this subject. We are also committed to reviewing different European policy areas with a view to developing concrete actions on how to include the interests of this group in European policies. Inclusion Europe has already started organising study visits to outstanding examples of good practice in 2008. Looking ahead, the European Year against Poverty and Social Exclusion in 2010 will be an excellent opportunity for us to raise concerns about the full inclusion of people with severe disabilities and complex needs in society.

Inclusion Europe believes that the situation of people with severe disabilities or complex needs must be considered in all areas of the UN Convention and its implementation.

The study was financed by the European Commission and managed by the Commission's Unit for the Integration of People with Disabilities in the Directorate General for



# Annual Report 2008

## Inclusion Europe

### INFLUENCE

Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities. The results and recommendations of the study are available on the website of the European Commission at [http://ec.europa.eu/employment\\_social/index/7002\\_en.html](http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/index/7002_en.html)

Another major development in 2008 was the new European Commission proposal for a Directive to implement the principle of equal treatment and to **combat discrimination on the grounds of disability** as well as of religion or belief, age, or sexual orientation. It addresses several key areas, such as social protection and health care, education, and access to and supply of goods and other services. However, the then proposed draft directive fell short, not only of the framework provided by the UN Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities, but may even have represented a backward step relative to the previous position established by the European institutions. Inclusion Europe was concerned that the proposal seemed to be led by national concerns instead of taking a courageous step forward to protect people with disabilities against discrimination in all areas of life.

With regard to training, Inclusion Europe in cooperation with its members Lebenshilfe Germany and Inclusion Czech Republic began a new project financed by the German Lottery Fund, Aktion Mensch, to develop a **Training Programme on the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**. It will comprise ten training sessions dedicated to crucial issues of the implications of the UN Convention for people with intellectual disabilities, such as legal capacity and supported decision-making, inclusive education, accessibility, independent living, the right to life, and work and employment. It aims to empower organisations of people with intellectual disabilities and their families – mainly in Central and Eastern Europe – to implement the UN Convention in their respective countries. More information is available at [www.rights-into-action.eu](http://www.rights-into-action.eu).

Inclusion Europe was also represented at the **Council of Europe Conference** "Protecting and Promoting the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Europe: Towards Full Participation, Inclusion and Empowerment", in Strasbourg in October 2008. The conference focused on the importance of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Council of Europe Disability Action Plan 2006-2015, in enabling people with disabilities throughout the world to enjoy the same human rights as everyone else. Mr Thomas Hammarberg, Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights, highlighted the completely unacceptable situation of people with disabilities in many countries, where they live in closed institutions and receive treatment which according to him

is tantamount to torture. He recalled that these institutions need to be phased out, whilst in the meantime being subject to rigorous inspection to ensure proper respect for human rights.

Inclusion Europe also lobbied the Council of Europe Committee of Experts on Family Law and sent written comments on the Draft Recommendation on Principles concerning continuing powers of attorney and advance directives for incapacity. This was to ensure that the recommendation would make available measures of supported decision-making (as opposed to substitute decision-making) for people who cannot make decisions without support.

In October 2008, a **European Conference on Inclusive Education** took place in Clermont-Ferrand, France. It was attended by 200 participants from across Europe, including staff from education ministries and school authorities, teachers and disability organisation representatives. At the conference, Patrick Clarke, member of the European Disability Forum, commented that "the responsibility for inclusive education lies within the Ministry of Education, not the Ministry for Social Affairs". Other speakers addressed the need for inclusive education to become a right, not an obligation, and for greater research at European level. To conclude, Adam Tyson from the European Commission called for improved cooperation at European level between public authorities and disability organisations. He also confirmed a tendency in all EU states towards inclusive education.



*Inclusive education in Graz, Austria*





## THE EUROPEAN PLATFORM OF SELF-ADVOCATES

EPSA is the short form for “European Platform of Self-Advocates”.

2008 has been a very busy year for EPSA.

Firstly, we looked at the problems faced by self-advocacy organisations.

The main problems are

- the need for help in networking,
- how to defend our rights,
- being recognised by the government and other organisations,
- money,
- the need for more information on self-advocacy, and
- finding good support.

The EPSA General Meeting 2008 in Vienna, adopted a new work plan.

This new work plan has 4 main goals:

1. To tell other people about the abilities of people with intellectual disabilities.
2. To help groups of self-advocates at local level.
3. To get more training for self-advocates and to make it more accessible.
4. To promote networking at European and national level.

A new Steering Group was also elected:

- Andrew Doyle, from Enable ACE – Scotland
- Paul Alford, from The Union on the Hill – Ireland
- Zdenka Petrovic, from ASA – Croatia
- Fabrice Vannobel, from Nous Aussi – France
- Tommi Valli, from Me Itse – Finland

We did a lot of other things during the year, like

- 2 meetings of experts in supporting the self-advocacy movement to advise Inclusion Europe on how it can better support self-advocacy;
- 4 meetings of 10 partners to make training more accessible. We did this within the Pathways project;
- A Position Paper on User Councils in special services for people with intellectual disabilities;
- Employing 2 new persons with intellectual disabilities at Inclusion Europe to promote self-advocacy at meetings and conferences;
- 4 issues of Europe for Us to make self-advocacy organisations more well-known at national and European level;
- Starting a new project for people with intellectual disabilities. It looks at how they can find out if a support service is of good quality.

More details and information on all these 2008 activities can be found in the full EPSA Annual Report.



# Annual Report 2008

Inclusion Europe

## FINANCIAL REPORT 2008

Inclusion Europe's finances were good in 2008.  
We have gained a little more money than what we have spent.  
But we still need to save more money which we could use in case of problems.

We are concerned about the world financial crisis.  
People with intellectual disabilities should not suffer from it.  
Governments should ensure and increase their spending for social issues.



As the new Treasurer of Inclusion Europe, it is my pleasure to report that in the financial year 2008, Inclusion Europe has consolidated further its financial position by consequently continuing with its strict cost-saving policy introduced in 2007. The structural savings implemented in the budget for 2008 have borne fruit and ensured that Inclusion Europe has maintained a stable financial structure. Sound financial management and control are exercised to meet the requirements of funders and members.

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

However, our level of reserves and cash-flow is still of concern. Reserves are too small to support our association through possible future financial difficulties. To avoid cash-flow problems I call upon all members to pay their membership fees as early as possible each year.

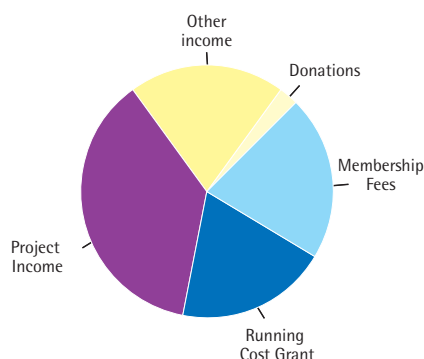
I would like to express my sincere thanks to all our members who paid their fees in 2008: this shows their high

commitment to the work of Inclusion Europe! Furthermore, my thanks go to individual donors and to the European Commission for their support for different activities at European level for people with intellectual disabilities and their families.

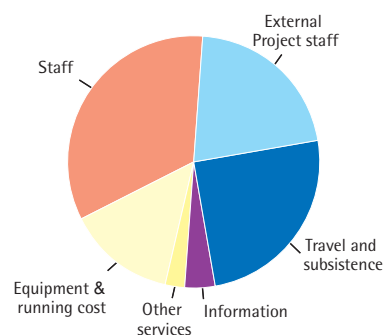
The membership of Inclusion Europe also feels the impact of the world financial crisis. While huge resources are invested to keep the banking sector and companies alive, even less money than before seems to be available for people with disabilities and their families. I can only fully support the European Disability Forum in stating that: "People with disabilities, their families, the unemployed and the poor cannot become the scapegoat for a crisis not of their making. The lesson of this crisis - the value of investing in people - is far more important than speculative investment and it benefits the whole of society and strengthens its resistance to such crisis-driven changes."

Hannes Traxler  
Treasurer

**Income 2008**  
642.954,70 €



**Expenditure 2008**  
642.783,61 €





Inclusion Europe has 60 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](http://www.lebenshilfe.at)  
Lebenshilfe Wien [www.dielebenshilfe.at](http://www.dielebenshilfe.at)
- **Belgium** - ANAHM/NVHVG [www.anahm.be](http://www.anahm.be)  
Mouvement Personne d'Abord [users.swing.be/Personne.dAbord/](http://users.swing.be/Personne.dAbord/)
- **Bosnia Herzegovina** - Zivotna pomoc [www.zivotnapomoc.org](http://www.zivotnapomoc.org)
- **Bulgaria** - BAPID [www.bapid.com](http://www.bapid.com)
- **Croatia** - Association for Promoting Inclusion [www.inkluzija.hr](http://www.inkluzija.hr)  
Association for Self-Advocacy [www.samozastupanje.hr](http://www.samozastupanje.hr)  
Croatian Association of Societies for Persons with Mental Retardation
- **Cyprus** - Pancyprian Parents Assoc. for People with Mental Handicap
- **Czech Republic** - Inclusion Czech Republic [www.spmprcz.cz](http://www.spmprcz.cz)  
Sebeobhajci Praha Rytmus [www.rytmus.org](http://www.rytmus.org)
- **Denmark** - Landesforeningen LEV [www.lev.dk](http://www.lev.dk)  
Udviklingshemmedes Landsforbund [www.ulf-web.dk](http://www.ulf-web.dk)
- **Estonia** - Estonian Mentally Disabled People Support Organisation [www.vaimukad.ee](http://www.vaimukad.ee) EVPIT Self-Advocacy Group
- **Faroe Islands** - Javni [www.javni.fo](http://www.javni.fo)
- **Finland** - FDUV [www.fduv.fi](http://www.fduv.fi), Kehitsysvammaisten Tukiliitto ry [www.kvtl.fi](http://www.kvtl.fi), Me Itse ry [www.kvtl.fi/meitse](http://www.kvtl.fi/meitse) Steg för Steg ry [www.fduv.fi/stegforsteg](http://www.fduv.fi/stegforsteg)
- **France** - UNAPEI [www.unapei.org](http://www.unapei.org), Nous Aussi
- **Germany** - Bundesvereinigung Lebenshilfe für Menschen mit geistiger Behinderung e.V. [www.lebenshilfe.de](http://www.lebenshilfe.de)  
Der Rat behinderter Menschen der Bundesvereinigung Lebenshilfe
- **Greece** - Panhellenic Federation of Parents and Guardians of Disabled People - [www.posgamea.gr](http://www.posgamea.gr)
- **Hungary** - EFOESZ [www.efoesz.hu](http://www.efoesz.hu)  
EFOESZ Self-Advocacy Group [www.efoesz.hu](http://www.efoesz.hu)
- **Iceland** - National Federation for the Handicapped [www.throskahjalp.is](http://www.throskahjalp.is)
- **Ireland** - Inclusion Ireland [www.inclusionireland.ie](http://www.inclusionireland.ie)  
Union on the Hill Self-Advocacy
- **Israel** - AKIM Israel [www.akim.org.il](http://www.akim.org.il)
- **Italy** - ANFFAS [www.anffas.net](http://www.anffas.net)
- **Latvia** - Rupju Berns [www.saule-rb.lv](http://www.saule-rb.lv)  
Rupju Berns - Latvian Self-Advocacy Movement
- **Lithuania** - Lithuanian Welfare Society for Persons with Mental Disability [www.viltis.lt](http://www.viltis.lt)
- **Luxembourg** - APEMH [www.apemh.lu](http://www.apemh.lu)  
Ligue HMC [www.ligue-hmc.lu](http://www.ligue-hmc.lu)
- **Macedonia** - Republic Center for Helping Persons with Mental Handicap [www.poraka.org.mk](http://www.poraka.org.mk)
- **Malta** - Movement in Favour of Rights for Persons with Disability
- **Moldova** - Humanitas Association [www.humanitas.info.md](http://www.humanitas.info.md)
- **Netherlands** - Stichting VB Belang [www.vgbelang.nl](http://www.vgbelang.nl)
- **Norway** - NFU Norwegian Association for Persons with Developmental Disabilities [www.nfunorge.org](http://www.nfunorge.org)  
NFU Self-Advocacy Group
- **Poland** - Polish Association for Persons with Mental Handicap [www.psouu.org/pl/eng/](http://www.psouu.org/pl/eng/)
- **Portugal** - HUMANITAS [www.humanitas.pt](http://www.humanitas.pt);  
FENACERCI [www.fenacerci.pt](http://www.fenacerci.pt)
- **Romania** - Romania Inclusiva [www.pentruvoii.ro/romania\\_inclusiva\\_en.htm](http://www.pentruvoii.ro/romania_inclusiva_en.htm)
- **Scotland** - Enable Scotland [www.enable.org.uk](http://www.enable.org.uk)  
Enable ACE Committee
- **Slovakia** - Association for Help to People with Mental Handicap (ZPMPVSR) [www.zpmpvsr.sk](http://www.zpmpvsr.sk)
- **Slovenia** - Sožitje [www.zveza-sozitie.si](http://www.zveza-sozitie.si)  
Centre Dolfke Bostjancic Draga
- **Spain** - FEAPS [www.feaps.org](http://www.feaps.org)
- **Sweden** - FUB [www.fub.se](http://www.fub.se), Rikssektionen Klippan [www.grunden.nu](http://www.grunden.nu)
- **Switzerland** - INSIEME [www.insieme.ch](http://www.insieme.ch)
- **United Kingdom** - Mencap [www.mencap.org.uk](http://www.mencap.org.uk)
- **Europe** - European Co-operation in Anthroposophical Curative Education and Social Therapy (ECCE) [www.ecce.eu](http://www.ecce.eu)

This brochure is supported by the Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities of the European Commission. Part of its funding is provided under the European Community Programme for Employment and Social Solidarity (2007-2013). This programme was established to financially support the implementation of the objectives of the European Union in the employment and social affairs area, as set out in the Social Agenda, and thereby contribute to the achievement of the Lisbon Strategy goals in these fields. The seven-year programme targets all stakeholders who can help shape the development of appropriate and effective employment and social legislation and policies across the EU-27, EFTA-EEA and EU candidate and pre-candidate countries. PROGRESS mission is to strengthen the EU contribution in support of Member States' commitments and efforts to create more and better jobs and to build a more cohesive society. To that effect, PROGRESS will be instrumental in:

- providing analysis and policy advice on PROGRESS policy areas;
- monitoring and reporting on the implementation of EU legislation and policies in PROGRESS policy areas;
- promoting policy transfer, learning and support among Member States on EU objectives and priorities; and
- relaying the views of the stakeholders and the society at large.

For more information see: [http://ec.europa.eu/employment\\_social/progress/index\\_en.html](http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/progress/index_en.html)

The information contained in this publication does not necessarily reflect the position or the opinion of the European Commission.

**24-27 June 2009**

**Europe in Action 2009**

My life!

Full participation and equality

(Tampere, Finland)

[www.EuropeInAction.org](http://www.EuropeInAction.org)

[www.kvtl.fi/mylife](http://www.kvtl.fi/mylife)



**21-23 October 2009**

**Global conference on Inclusive Education**

Return to Salamanca:

Confronting the Gap: Rhetoric, Rights and Reality

(Salamanca, Spain)

[www.inclusion-europe.org](http://www.inclusion-europe.org)

[www.inclusion-international.org](http://www.inclusion-international.org)



**16-19 June 2010**

**15<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Inclusion International**

Inclusion for All!

Transforming Global Rights into Action

(Berlin, Germany)

[www.inclusion2010.de](http://www.inclusion2010.de)



More information about Inclusion Europe's events and conferences at

[www.rights-into-action.eu](http://www.rights-into-action.eu)

Annual Report  
2008



**Inclusion Europe**

Galleries de la Toison d'Or ■ Chaussée d'Ixelles 29, #393/32 ■ B-1050 Brussels

Tel: +32-2-502.28.15 ■ Fax: +32-2502.80.10

Email: [secretariat@inclusion-europe.org](mailto:secretariat@inclusion-europe.org) ■ Internet: [www.inclusion-europe.org](http://www.inclusion-europe.org)