

Independent mechanism

Pursuant to article 33.2 of the UNCRPD, States Parties have to designate, in accordance with their legal and administrative systems, one or more independent mechanisms, thereby taking into account the principles relating to the status and functioning of national institutions for protection and promotion of human rights.

The threefold role of the independent mechanism is to:

- promote the implementation of the Convention. i.e. providing information, conducting educational and awareness-raising activities, promoting implementation methods and tools that are available for the public authorities, informing persons with disabilities about their rights
- follow up the implementation and the monitoring of the Convention, i.e. bringing the legislation and the policies in line with the Convention
- protect the rights of persons with disabilities, i.e. establishing prevention programmes, providing legal support and advice, setting up a complaints mechanism, offering mediation services and, if necessary, taking legal actions.

In Belgium, the independent mechanism is the Centre for Equal Opportunities and the Fight against Racism (CECLR-CGKR).