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Members Mailing is about you! Send us your news, events, calls for action and any other relevant news items you wish to include in this newsletter to:

lila.sylviti@edf-feph.org.

With the new layout of our newsletter, you have the possibility to **translate the content in different languages**. Click on the the button "View this email in your browser" on the right top corner of this email and choose the option "Translate".

This is the first time we use this tool for the newsletter. [Should you face any difficulties to access the newsletter, please let us know!](#)

[La version française du Members' Mailing sera disponible prochainement sur le site internet du FEPH, section 'Members only'.](#)

EDF NEWS

NEW INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

The **UN General Assembly** adopted the new International Development Framework known as the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#). EDF has been campaigning for the inclusion of persons with disabilities in International Cooperation for some years, through our work in the [International Disability Alliance \(IDA\)](#), and in our EU advocacy and together with the [International Disability and Development Consortium \(IDDC\)](#). The Agenda for Sustainable Development includes explicit references to persons with disabilities under sections on human rights, vulnerable groups, education, employment,

reducing inequality, inclusive cities, means of implementation and data.

[Read more on EDF's website.](#)

1million4disability EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT DEBATE

On the 17 September, the **European Parliament's Petition Committee** exchanged views on the rights of people with disabilities, including the petition supported by 1.4 million signatures through the successful campaign 1million4disability. **EDF presented the petition asking for equal rights of people with disabilities to be enshrined in European law and for reinforced action for their social integration, access to employment and education, equal treatment, social protection and mobility. Members of the Committee showed strong support.** The Committee decided to leave the petition open until the horizontal equal treatment directive is adopted. Moreover the Committee will send a letter to the Luxembourg Presidency of the EU asking for the adoption of the directive and to disclose the names of the countries who are opposing it. For more information please contact simona.giarratano@edf-feph.org.

[You can watch the debate on the Parliament's website.](#)

EUROPEAN CIVIL AVIATION CONFERENCE

On 3 September, EDF participated in the bi-annual meeting of **Facilitation sub-group on persons with reduced mobility of the European Civil Aviation Conference (ECAC)** in Paris where EDF gave a presentation on the recommendations by the CRPD committee.

During the session, the work programme for 2016 was also established. EDF will participate in two working groups; one on the accessibility of websites of airlines, airports and NEBs and another one on the revision of assessment criteria for "good practice" airports. We will also help preparing a workshop in assistance at airports in the second half of 2016.

Volunteers who are interested in the topic can give their input directly to marie.denninghaus@edf-feph.org.

INTERNAL COMMUNICATION & MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

EDF would like to thank its members for distributing its post of the new Internal Communication & Membership Development Officer. We will be interviewing the

shortlisted candidates on 9 October. If you have any questions, contact:

catherine.naughton@edf-feph.org.

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

FIRST MEETING OF THE CRPD NETWORK

The **European Parliament** has created its own **CRPD implementation mechanism**, which is the result of EDF's advocacy over the last year for a cross-committee Task Force. MEPs from several EP Committees (EMPL, LIBE, PETI, BUDG, CULT, DROI, ENVI, FEMM, IMCO, JURI, TRAN, REGI, DEVE) have been nominated to this new body (which the European Parliament officially calls 'CRPD Network'). Committee staff are also present.

The **first meeting took place on Wednesday 23 September**. EDF was invited to present the EU monitoring Framework, in our capacity as Chair of the Framework only, not as a DPO. **EDF will continue working to ensure that the Network fully embraces the principles of the CRPD**, including the article 4.3. Prior to the meeting, EDF sent a letter to all Members of the Network and to the Chair of the Employment Committee, to underline this issue as well as to invite the Network to steer the European Parliament's role in the implementation of the Concluding Observations. EDF will work with MEPs to raise important issues in the Network, in cooperation with EDF members. This will be discussed at our upcoming Board meeting in October in Brussels.

Contact: etienne.cuche@edf-feph.org

DISABILITY INTERGROUP MEETING ON THE DIGITAL SINGLE MARKET

On Tuesday 15 September, the **Disability Intergroup** met to discuss **accessibility in the new Strategy for the EU Digital Single Market**. A number of **EDF members** were there, as well as **AGE-platform Europe**, with whom we work closely on digital accessibility. Key MEPs active on this topic were present and heard EDF's views: MEPs Gebhardt and Kallas (EP co-rapporteurs on the DSM) as well as MEP Ford, Chair of the EP internal market Committee (among others). **MEPs stated that they would work hard so that persons with disabilities are included in all parts of the DSM**. The rapporteur also contacted EDF to discuss concrete amendments. MEPs also proposed another initiative regarding the web accessibility directive - a future EP plenary debate to put pressure on the Council.

EDF regularly shared posts on twitter from the speakers and the participants of the meeting. Many EDF members, partners and MEPs followed EDF's communication on twitter and shared our messages.

[Remember that the Disability intergroup work programme 2015-2016 is available on its website.](#)

Contact: etienne.cuche@edf-feph.org

MEETING OF THE BUREAU OF THE DISABILITY INTERGROUP

The Bureau of the **Disability intergroup** met on Tuesday 22 September for an **exchange of views with EDF on the CRPD Committee Concluding Observations** and a first discussion on Parliament's plans in this regard. 3 EP Committees (EMPL, LIBE, PETI) will write a joint own-initiative report over the autumn, but drafting hasn't started yet. MEP Helga Stevens will be EMPL's rapporteur; other co-rapporteurs haven't been nominated yet.

EDF sent a letter to Bureau MEPs to invite them to EDF autumn Board meeting (discussion on the Concluding Observations and on the EP).

Contact: etienne.cuche@edf-feph.org

EDF CALLS FOR ACTION

COORDINATION FOR SOCIAL SECURITY IN EUROPE

The **European Commission** launched a **public consultation on coordination of social security in the EU**. In particular, the consultation aims at coordinating access to **family benefits and unemployment benefits for citizens that move to another EU country**. Unfortunately the consultation does not tackle important issues such as exportability of social security benefits including personal assistance. **Do you have any general comments on the need to coordinate social security among EU countries to allow mobility of workers with disabilities?** (comments could regard cross-boarder payment of family benefits, for parents with children with disabilities moving to work in another country, access to unemployment benefits and disability benefits in a country other than the one of residence). Thank you for sending your messages to simona.giarratanoedf-feph.org at the latest on the 12 October.

[Find more information on the consultation on the Commission's website.](#)

OTHER CALLS

DISABILITY RIGHTS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Disability Rights Scholarship Program provides **awards for master's degree study to disability rights advocates, lawyers, and educators** to develop new legislation, jurisprudence, policy, research, and scholarship to harness the innovations and opportunities offered by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

The deadline is 2 November.

[Find out more on Open Society Foundations' website.](#)

EUROPEAN COMMISSION'S CONSULTATION ON EU CITIZENSHIP

The **European Commission** has recently launched a [public consultation](#) aimed at all EU citizens to give feedback on **rights and democratic participation**. It also includes a few questions on disability and for example portability of social security benefits. They specifically encourage individuals to reply and the deadline is 7 December.

Contact: simona.giarratano@edf-feph.org

ONCE FOUNDATION SURVEY ON ACCESSIBLE TOURISM

ONCE Foundation has launched an [on-line survey on accessible tourism](#) in Spain and is looking forward to your replies. Please feel also free to share it via your social media channels (twitter, facebook, linkedIn, etc.).

The survey will be open until 30 October and if you have any questions you can contact ONCE Foundation directly: Veronica Martorell (vmartorell@consultoria.ilunion.com) and/or Iván Carmona (icarmona@consultoria.ilunion.com).

VACANCIES

HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH IS LOOKING FOR A DEPUTY DIRECTOR

[Find more information on the website of Human Rights Watch.](#)

SAVE THE DATE

29/09: MOVING FORWARD FOR THE ADOPTION OF A EUROPEAN STRATEGY FOR AUTISM

Following the endorsement by 418 MEPs of the Written Declaration on autism, a conference will be held in the European Parliament in Brussels.

[Find more information on Autism Europe's website.](#)

29/09-01/10: ENIL'S FREEDOM DRIVE

The theme for this year is: **The Next Independent Living Generation!** The Freedom Drive will provide an opportunity for participants from across Europe to meet with Members of the European Parliament and to discuss issues affecting their lives. There will also be a march to the European Parliament, an international conference, the ENIL General Assembly and social events.

[Find out more on ENIL's website.](#)

30/09: EUROPEAN FILM FESTIVAL REVIEW

MEP Marek Plura is hosting the European Film Festival "Integration You and Me" Review promoting social inclusion of people with disabilities on Wednesday 30 September from 16:30 to 18:00 at the European Parliament.

Contact: marek.plura@ep.europa.eu

7-8/12: EUROPEAN DAY OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

This year's Day of Persons with Disabilities conference will take place on **7-8 December 2015**, and it will focus on **children and young people with disabilities**. [The programme is available on the European Commission's website.](#)

EDITORIAL NOTE


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