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DOC-B-17-02-10

European Accessibility Act training

Document for information

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1. Introduction and purpose

This training intends to provide general guidelines and tips to EDF Board members when discussing with other stakeholders the proposal for a European Accessibility Act.

After years advocating for this piece of legislation and its publication over a year ago, EDF and its members are facing a strong opposition from industry players, and lack of ambition among policy-makers. Given the complexity of the proposal both in its structure and content, the EDF Secretariat will propose a practical (and hopefully entertaining) method to get to know the key aspects of the proposed Directive, as well as the main arguments of different stakeholders.

The aim of this training is not to go in technical detail, but to have a clear overview of the conflicting points and how to address them in policy conversations. As in chess, in order to win, we need to anticipate the movements of the opponent.

2. How will it work?

EDF Board members will be divided in three groups.

Each group will be chaired and trained by one member of the EDF Secretariat who will explain the main aspects of the proposal, as well as the common arguments and ideas of the respective group.

The three groups represent the main counterparts in the discussions about the Act, namely:



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1. DPOs – Marie Denninghaus
2. Policy makers – Etienne Cuche
3. Industry players – Alejandro Moledo

Each group will work on the main concepts around the EAA, as well as their stakeholders' group arguments. After practicing these in the groups, everybody will join again and some simulations will be performed by volunteers from each of the groups.

After this, all EDF members will be able to comment and exchange views on how the situation was handled.

3. Structure

- 45 minutes – Work in groups
- 30 minutes – Role Play Simulation (all groups together)
- 15 minutes – Lessons learnt / exchange of views

4. Topics covered by the training

- Scope
- Relationship with other Union acts
- Accessibility Requirements
- Enforcement mechanism and CE marking
- Standards & Common Technical Specifications in support of the Act
- Exemptions: disproportionate burden and fundamental alteration

After the training, and based on the needs, the EDF Secretariat will circulate a document summarizing the topics covered by the training as well as the guidelines provided for each group.

Should you have any specific accessibility requirement regarding the training, please send an email to marie.denninghaus@edf-feph.org and alejandro.moledo@edf-feph.org.