

REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR, FAMILY SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

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Guest Speaker Invitation Letter

Dear Mr. Pierre Gyselinck

It is our pleasure to invite you to be a speaker at Plenary Session II at the <u>upcoming</u> <u>Slovenian Presidency Conference for Persons with Disabilities: Empowering persons with</u> <u>disabilities to fully participate in society by increasing their mobility and accessibility.</u>

European and Slovenian speakers will be invited to the conference. The topic of the conference is important at the level of the European Union, its member states, as well as Slovenia.

We anticipate that the conference will be live and up to 150 participants will be invited. Member States' experts and representatives of the European Commission, EDF and NSIOS members and experts in the field of disability.

The conference will contribute to raising awareness of the rights of persons with disabilities, especially from the field of accessibility and mobility, which the European Commission has highlighted in recent years with the adoption of the EAA and the new the Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030. Therefore, the introductory part of the conference is intended to present Slovenian projects that have been successfully implemented so far and can be developed into permanent ones that will be of key importance to persons with disabilities in their lives.

The European Commission, together with the Member States, has prepared a successful EU Disability Card project, which supports one of the segments of accessibility, which is easier access to the benefits of EU Member States, by offering them more favorable products and services within each country that joined the project.

The final part of the conference will present the most current topic of the new EU Strategy on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities for the period 2021 – 2030 that affect all areas of life of persons with disabilities, even in times of society crisis, access to goods, digitalisation, information and communication technologies, education, employment, health, full participation in society and, last but not least, the implementation of the EU Disability Card on an even larger scale than originally planned. All beforementioned is linked to the implementation and the commitment made at the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

At the end of the conference, the conclusions of the conference will be made, and an e-Proceedings will be prepared. The topic of the conference was chosen based on an agreement between MDDSZ, NSIOS and EDF.

We would kingly ask you to <u>suggest the name of your topic that you'll present during the</u> <u>conference as well as we would appreciate to send us your CV and at the same time we would</u> <u>need in written your theme for the e-Proceedings</u>. <u>The deadline to submit your contribution is July</u> 15, 2021.

Kind regards.

Saša Mlakar

Secretary for coordination of international affairs for PWD Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities