

European Disability Forum (EDF)

## 1<sup>st</sup> Peer Exchange on EU Presidencies

29/03/2023, 10:00 (online)

### Participants:

- Marie Denninghaus (EDF)
- Charlotte Aelbrecht (BDF)
- Olivier Magritte (BDF)
- Pilar Villarino (CERMI)
- Mia Ahlgren (Funktionsrätt)

### Excused:

- Gergö Sebö
- Monica Loland
- Thorkild Olesen

### 1. Opening and welcome

- Tour de table
- Purpose of the meeting – presentation at Board meeting on Saturday, 1 April

### 2. Feedback from the Swedish Presidency

- Disability not a priority
- Got funding to prepare the Presidency so they were successful in mainstreaming disability
- EDF got invitations to conferences on Loneliness and Housing– success
- Different approach to focus on mainstreaming
- Special session on disability and violence against women – invited as participants
- Sustainable AI – maybe not as official speakers but as part of discussion
- Equality Ombudsman: EDF invitation as speaker in conference on equality data
- 27 June conference in Brussels with Disability Platform on National Disability Strategies
- Minister speaking on AI conference on Friday 31 March – not official Presidency event
- Very little funding for conference but some funding for preparation (staff cost); total funding received 40 000 € from 2 different public sources (ministry and public agency).
- Difficult digital registering for conferences, the system is not easy to use

### 3. Plans for the Spanish Presidency starting 1 July

- Started working with government last year; no programme yet but there will be a conference on disability in Palma de Mallorca on 26 – 27 October
- Conference on Employment and Social Affairs will be held on 13 and 14 July, Madrid
- 3 priorities: Disability Card, women with disabilities (Directive on violence against women and European year of women with disabilities 2024); Employment Package ; electoral law and right to vote
- Parallel event of women with disabilities (Forum of women and girls with disabilities) in November
- Mainstreaming of disability in different ministerial meetings
- 1 July: presentation of ONCE
- Signing agreement with Presidency, CERMI, and ONCE to ensure accessibility; close cooperation with AENA to ensure airport accessibility
- AccessibleEU center: ONCE foundation has been given the contract

4. Update on future Presidencies: Belgium

- Federal Minister in charge of disability has been asked to include DPOs
- Academic workshop for preparation of Presidency – EDF and BDF were invited .  
Presentations on Disability Strategy, Disability Card, and Employment Package (including sheltered vs protected employment; new professions) – will probably be their main priorities for the Presidency
- Horizontal Equal Treatment Directive
- Impression that they have strong commitment from the staff of the Minister
- In the regular meetings with the cabinet they confirmed that they will push for implication of DPOs
- Conference/Meeting planned in 25 March 2024 on the topics mentioned above, Minister already announced that all conferences will be made accessible
- Hosting of possible EDF Board meeting/AGA has not been discussed yet by BDF but will be on the agenda of their next Board meeting

5. Summary and closing

- Marie will send the notes of the meeting to the participants to check
- Once approved, they will also be sent to the Hungarian and Danish EDF members for information
- Thank you!