

Workshop

“Linking National and European Disability Strategies”

24 October 2023 – 12:30 to 16:30

Place: Ministry of Social Security, Floor: -2, Room: Saman & Microsoft Teams



Context

Belgium holds the Presidency of the Council of the EU during the first half of 2024. As the Belgian Presidency coincides with the end of the EU legislature and the term of office of the Von der Leyen Commission, this is the ideal time to take stock of the implementation of the European Strategy for the rights of persons with disabilities 2021-2030 and identify opportunities for the upcoming legislature. To achieve this, the Belgian Presidency will organise a conference **“Towards full inclusion of persons with disabilities – the European Pillar of Social Rights and beyond”**. The conference will take place on the 19th of March at the Charlemagne Building of the European Commission in Brussels.

The topic of the first of three panels of this conference will be **“Linking national and European strategies for implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities”**. As a follow up to the Swedish presidency event, which looked into national disability strategies and cross-sectoral governance, the Belgian presidency plans to focus on best practices of implementation with regards to the EU Disability Strategy and the calls to action to the Member States. The panel will present and elaborate on best practices, to be identified in this preparatory workshop (e.g., mutual learning approaches, mainstreaming of best practices from other sectors, country best practices), which will enable all stakeholders to better implement the European Strategy.

Objective

To further develop the topics of the three panels during the conference in March, the FPS Social Security organises 2 workshops with stakeholders and experts at Belgian and European level. The workshops will be held under Chatham House rules. The output will be used to further develop the panels of the conference in March.

During this preparatory workshop we will gather feedback on the initial draft of the background note by An-Sofie Leenknecht (Consultant in disability rights) and Angelina Atanasova, PhD (European social Observatory).

The final version of this document will serve as the background note for the panel on national and EU strategies during the conference in March. We encourage you to read through the note and look forward to your input during the discussion with regards to this topic. The note is attached to the invitation.

Practical Information

Address: FPS Social Security, Finance Tower, Kruidtuinlaan/Boulevard du Jardin Botanique 50, 1000 Brussels (see map below how to get there)

Teams meeting link: [Teams - Workshop Disability Strategies](#)

➔ *The Teams meeting will be recorded for notetaking purposes and will only be used internally.*

Agenda: see below.

Wi-Fi: If you are attending the workshop in person and would like to access the Wi-fi, you need to register to our Guestroom Wi-Fi on beforehand (see the access procedure attached to the invitation mail).

Agenda

12.30-13.30 **Registration & lunch**

13.30-13.40 **Introduction & Welcome**

Introduction on the structure and the purpose of the workshop

Manuel Paolillo, Federal Public Service Social Security

Joachim Lommelen, Federal Public Service Social Security

13.40-14.00 **Presentation of the background note**

The link between the EU Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030 and the national strategies of the EU Member States: coherence, effective implementation and mutual learning

An-Sofie Leenkecht, Consultant in disability rights

Angelina Atanasova, European Social Observatory

14.00-14.15 **Presentation outcomes study by Swedish Presidency (TBC)**

14.15-14.30 **Key Notes of European Disability Forum**

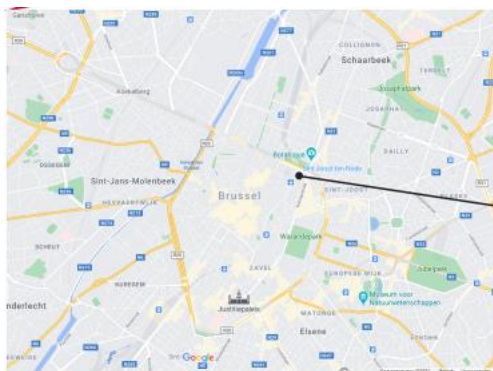
14.30-14.45 **Coffee/tea break**

14.45-16.15 **Discussion**

*Discussion moderated by **Jana Noyez**, Federal Public Service Social Security*

16.15 – 16.30 **Closing remarks and next steps**

Joachim Lommelen, Federal Public Service Social Security



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**B Bruxelles-Congrès
Brussel-Congres**

= 6 min. (0,5 km)

= 3 min.

**B Bruxelles-Nord
Brussel-Noord**

= 17 min. (1,3 km)

= 7 min.

**B Bruxelles-Centrale
Brussel-Centraal**

= 18 min. (1,5 km)

= 8 min.

Botanique Kruidentuin

= 2 min.

Quetelet

= 5 min.