European standards for easy-to-read information

By promoting Europe-wide quality standards for accessible information for persons with intellectual disabilities, this innovative practice helps to create a solid framework for improving the access of persons with intellectual disabilities to information in line with Articles 9 and 21 of the UNCRPD.

“Access to information empowers people with intellectual disabilities to make their own choices and take an active part in society.” (Senada HALILČEVIĆ)

European standards for making information easy to read and understand

Organisation: Inclusion Europe aisbl
Country/region of origin: Belgium
Beneficiaries targeted: Persons with learning difficulties
Approach/model/solution: Norms and Standards

FACTS & FIGURES
- European standards and ‘easy-to-read’ logo used in 19 European countries

PROBLEMS TARGETED

The lack of accessible information results in people with intellectual disabilities being victims of discrimination and social exclusion. In addition, the variety of approaches to accessible information makes it difficult to enforce systematically the right of people with intellectual disabilities to information.

PROJECT

The European standards for making information easy to read and understand help to unify the diverse approaches to producing accessible information for persons with intellectual disabilities. They have also helped to spread the ‘easy-to-read’ concept to countries where this practice had not been previously established. The guidelines together with the European ‘easy-to-read’ logo help set common standards and quality criteria for ‘easy-to-read’.

CURRENT SITUATION & OUTLOOK

The European standards for making information easy to read and understand are now available in 16 languages. The European Commission, the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights, the Council of Europe, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and other international and national stakeholders have published accessible information according to the standards. Inclusion Europe and its members continue to promote the standards as a way of improving the access of persons with intellectual disabilities to information and lifelong learning.

The European ‘easy-to-read’ logo is used in 19 European countries.

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EXPERT VOTING
Top marks from:
- all voters
- NGO voters
Top marks for:
- access to ICT
- targeting the blind

Nominated by: Inclusion Europe, SPMP ČR (Inclusion Czech Republic)