



EUROPEAN
DISABILITY
FORUM



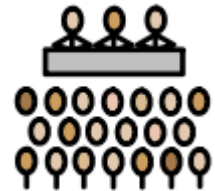
This is the programme of the 4th **European Parliament** of People with Disabilities.

The day is Wednesday December 6th, 2017.

Look up the definitions of the words in **bold** at the end of the text.

10:00 - 10:20

Start of the Day.



Speakers:



Antonio Tajani
President of the
European Parliament.



Yannis Vardakastanis
President of the
European Disability Forum (EDF).



EUROPEAN
DISABILITY
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10:20 - 11:20

Talk on Political Participation
of people with disabilities.



Co-Chairs:



Ádám Kósa
Co-President of the
**European Parliament
Disability Intergroup.**



Marek Plura
Vice President of the
**European Parliament
Disability Intergroup.**



Maureen Piggot
Member of the
**EDF Executive
Committee.**

Speakers:



Georgios Dassis
President of the
**European Economic and
Social Committee (EESC).**



Harry Roche
Board member of
Inclusion Europe and
steering group member of **EPSA.**



EUROPEAN
DISABILITY
FORUM



Dimitrios Papadimoulis

Member of European Parliament (MEP)

and Vice President
of Gender Equality and Diversity.



Krzysztof Pater

Member of the **EESC**.

He reported on the rights of
people with disabilities
to vote in the
European Elections



Pat Clarke

Vice President of **EDF**.

11:20 - 12:25:

1st Plenary Debate.

12:25 - 12:30:

Vote on **EDF's** statement on the
European **Elections**.





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12:30 - 14:00

Lunch Break

In Room Yehudi Menuhin

PHS building, 1st floor.



14:00 - 15:00

Talk on the **disability strategy**

for 2020-2030 in the **European Union**.

Talk about how to use **EU** money to help everyone.

Co-Chairs:



Helga Stevens

MEP.



Gunta Anca

Member of the **EDF**
Executive Committee.



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Speakers:



Marianne Thyssen
**European
Commissioner.**



Emily O'Reilly
**European
Ombudsman.**



Corina Crețu
**European
Commissioner.**



Marian Harki
Vice President
**European Parliament
Disability Intergroup.**



Luca Visentini
Secretary General
**European Trade
Union Confederation.**



Mauro D'Attis
Member of the
**European Committee
of the Regions.**



Jana Hainsworth
President of **Social Platform.**



Rodolfo Cattani
EDF Executive Committee.



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15:00 - 15:55:

2nd Plenary Debate.



15:55 - 16:00:

Vote on a statement on the
European Disability Strategy.

16:00 - 16:45:

Session on the **EU** in the world.

How can the EU be an example in the world
for disability rights?

Co-Chairs:



Olga Sehnalová
Co-President
**European Parliament
Disability Intergroup.**



Nadia Hadad
EDF
Executive Committee.



EUROPEAN
DISABILITY
FORUM



Speakers:



Neven Mimica
**European
Commissioner.**



Philippe Lamberts
MEP and Co-President
of a European party.



Alison Coleman
works at **SDG
Watch Europe.**



Ana Peláez
Vice-President of **EDF.**



Christos Stylianides
European Commissioner.

16:45 - 17:25:

3rd Plenary Debate.





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17:25 – 17:30:

Closing the Programme.

Speaker:



Yannis Vardakastanis

President of **EDF**.



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Definitions:

Chair

A chair is someone who leads a meeting.

A co-chair is someone who leads a meeting together with other people.

Commissioner at the European Union

A Commissioner is a person who is responsible for a field of work at the **European Commission** and manages a lot of people.

Election

An election is when each person who is 18 years old or older goes to vote.

Elections decide who should speak for us and make choices for us.

Elections happen in different areas.

For example in your town or city when you can elect a new mayor.

Or in your country when you can elect a new president.

European Commission

The European Commission works with the **European Parliament**.

The European Commission suggests laws.



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FORUM



It also makes sure that the laws that have been decided upon are being followed by the member states.

European Committee of the Regions

The Committee of the Regions

is an organisation in the **European Union**.

It tries to make sure that the European Union listens to the different regions in Europe.

A region is a part of a country.

European Disability Forum

The European Disability Forum is an organisation of people with disabilities in Europe.

In short, we call it EDF.

EDF was created by people with disabilities in 1996.

EDF works to protect the rights of people with disabilities in Europe.

EDF is based in Brussels in Belgium.

European Disability Strategy

The European Disability Strategy is decided by the **European Commission**.



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FORUM



It helps give more rights to people with disabilities.

The strategy offers ways to help people with disabilities at both the European level and at the national level.

European Economic and Social Committee

The European Economic and Social Committee is an organisation in the **European Union**.

The European Economic and Social Committee is called the 'EESC' for short.

The EESC connects civil society with the **European Union**.

Civil society is made up of groups and organisations that represent citizens with different interests.

European Ombudsman

The European Ombudsman looks at how the **European Union** institutions work.

Sometimes the European Union institutions make mistakes.

People can tell the Ombudsman about it – this is called a complaint.

The European Ombudsman helps people who have complaints against a European Union institution.



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DISABILITY
FORUM



European Parliament

The European Parliament is a place where important decisions of the **European Union** are made.

For example: laws and budgets.

The **Members of the European Parliament (in short, MEPs)** make these decisions and represent all the people who live in the European Union.

Every five years, the people who live in the European Union vote for their country's MEPs.

European Parliament Disability Intergroup

The European Parliament Disability Intergroup is a group of **MEPs** who want to promote the rights of people with disabilities.

European Union

The European Union (in short, EU) is a group of 28 countries.

We call these countries "member states".

They have joined together to be stronger politically and economically.

The EU makes laws on many important things for the people who live in those countries.



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DISABILITY
FORUM



The EU makes laws in different areas. Some examples are:

- Laws to protect the environment.
- Laws for farmers.

Inclusion Europe

Inclusion Europe is an organisation that works to protect the rights of people with intellectual disabilities in Europe.

Inclusion Europe is made up of member organisations from all over Europe.

The **European Platform of Self Advocates (in short, EPSA)**

is made up of organisations of self-advocates from different countries in Europe.

It is a part of Inclusion Europe.

Plenary Debate

A plenary debate is a time for the speakers and the audience to speak together.

It is decided before who will speak during the debate.

In order to make sure all groups are heard there will be speakers who are women with disabilities and children with disabilities.



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There will also be speakers with intellectual and psychosocial disabilities and speakers who need high levels of support.

SDG Watch

SDG Watch is a network of organisations that want to make sure that governments in the **European Union** are working towards the Sustainable Development goals.

Sustainable Development means helping people without hurting the environment.

Social Platform

Social Platform is a network of different organisations that works for human rights in the **European Union**.

Trade Union

A trade union is an organisation that speaks for people who work.

It tries to make sure that they get paid right and that they do not need to work too long hours.