# EDF Women’s Committee meeting – 24 May 2022

# Annex 1: Updates from EDF’s Secretariat

## UN Treaty Bodies

### CRPD Committee

**EU Review**: In April 2022, the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD Committee) adopted the [List of Issues Prior to Reporting on the EU](https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRPD%2fC%2fEU%2fQPR%2f2-3&Lang=en). EDF sent information, including on women and girls with disabilities, as well as mothers, in its alternative report and in a joint briefing on discrimination and intersectionality. Issues were also raised during private meetings with Committee members. The List of Issues contains many questions we suggested in our alternative report. The EU has 12 months to send its replies. EDF will prepare an updated alternative report for the second part of the review process that will lead to the adoption of recommendations for the EU.

**General Comment on Employment:** The CRPD Committee continues its work on the General Comment. Inputs were sent by EDF. This work is monitored by EDFSocial Policy Committee.

**Guidelines on Deinstitutionalisation of Persons with Disabilities:** The Committee adopted an annotated outline of its Guidelines on Deinstitutionalisation of Persons with Disabilities, including in emergency situations ([Annotated outline](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/CRPD/Guidelines/CRPD_Annotated_outline.docx)). The process of preparing the Guidelines is continuing. This work is monitored by EDFSocial Policy Committee.

### Calendar of review

Together with the International Disability Alliance (IDA), EDF continue to support members in preparation of the review by UN Treaty bodies, with particular focus on review by the CRPD and CEDAW Committees.

[**CRPD Committee**](https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/TreatyBodyExternal/SessionsList.aspx?Treaty=CRPD)

* No review of European countries expected for the rest of 2022

[**Committee on Elimination of Discrimination Against Women**](https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/TreatyBodyExternal/SessionsList.aspx?Treaty=CEDAW) **(CEDAW)**

* [82nd session](https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/SessionDetails1.aspx?SessionID=2578&Lang=en) – from 13 June to 1st July 2022: Review of **Hungary** and **Portugal**
* [84th pre-sessional working group](https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/SessionDetails1.aspx?SessionID=2579&Lang=en) – from 1 to 8 July 2022: List of issues on **Iceland**; List of issues prior to reporting on **Monaco**
* [83rd session](https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/SessionDetails1.aspx?SessionID=2582&Lang=en) – from 10 to 28 October 2022: Review of **Armenia**, **Belgium**, **Finland**, **Switzerland** and **Ukraine**
* [85th pre-sessional working group](https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/SessionDetails1.aspx?SessionID=2583&Lang=en) – from 28 October to 4 November: List of issues prior to reporting on **Estonia** and **Liechtenstein**

[**Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights**](https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/TreatyBodyExternal/SessionsList.aspx?Treaty=CESCR) **(CESCR)**

* September/October 2022: review of **Luxembourg**; List of Issues on **Cyprus**, **Iceland** and **Poland**
* February/March 2023: review of **Lithuania** and **Portugal**

[**Committee on the Rights of the Child**](https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/TreatyBodyExternal/SessionsList.aspx?Treaty=CRC) **(CRC)**

* May/June 2022: review of **Croatia**, **Cyprus**, **Greece** and **Iceland**
* August/September 2022: review of **Germany**, **North Macedonia** and **Ukraine**

[**Committee Against Torture**](https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/TreatyBodyExternal/SessionsList.aspx?Treaty=CAT) **(CAT)**

* April/May 2022: review of **Iceland** and **Montenegro**; List of Issues Prior to Reporting on **Germany**, **Greece**, **Poland** and the **United Kingdom**
* October 2022: List of issues prior to Reporting on **Cyprus** and **Latvia**

### Elections

There will be new elections of members of the CRPD and CEDAW Committees in 2022.

EDF’s support the candidacy of [Sif Holst](https://www.edf-feph.org/blog/working-together-to-achieve-more-sif-holst-vice-chair-dpod-nominee-for-the-convention-on-the-rights-of-persons-with-disabilities-committee/), Vice-Chair of DPOD in Denmark, for the CRPD Committee and the [candidacy of Ana Pelaez Narvaez](file:///\\192.168.254.21\new%20folder%20structure\Governing%20Bodies,%20Committees%20and%20WG\Human%20rights%20and%20non%20discrimination%20Committee\2022\February%202022\Supporting%20documents\Dear%20sisters%20and%20colleagues) for the CEDAW Committee.

## Development at EU level

1. **Proposal of a Directive on combating violence against women and domestic violence**

The European Commission published a legislative proposal to combat violence against women and gender-based violence. Last year, with the support of the Women’s Committee, EDF published a [position paper on violence against women and girls with disabilities in the EU](https://www.edf-feph.org/publications/edf-position-paper-on-violence-against-women-and-girls-with-disabilities-in-the-european-union/), attended several meetings and participated in a Commission study.

The proposal recognises the rights and needs of women and girls with disabilities with 14 references in several areas of the proposal, including in the assessment of victims' needs, accessibility requirement for helplines, and aggravating circumstances for violence against women with disabilities, including in institutions.

However, many gaps still remain. In particular, the proposal does not criminalise forced sterilisation, does not oblige to collect data disaggregated by disability and do not require States train professionals about the rights and needs of women and girls with disabilities.

EDF has started to work on advocacy to the European Parliament and the Council to make the directive more inclusive of women and girls with disabilities (see amendments proposed in the document attached).

1. **Recommendation on harmful practices**

The European Commission is preparing a Recommendation on preventing and combating harmful practices against women and girls to be published by the end of the year. It is very important as it will contain information and recommendations regarding forced sterilisation and forced abortion. EDF was invited to take part in two technical workshops on the topic and will also issue a paper for the [online consultation](https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/13110-Prevention-of-harmful-practices-against-women-and-girls_en) open until end of May.

1. **Pay Transparency Directive**

The proposal for a Directive on Pay Transparency was published in March 2021 and will go to trialogue soon (discussion between the Council, the Parliament and the Commission). Many of the EDF [proposed amendments](https://www.edf-feph.org/publications/edf-proposals-for-amendments-to-the-pay-transparency-directive/) were included in the position of the Parliament, and we are now communicating our red lines on the proposal to the Council/Member States and the Rapporteurs in the Parliament. They concern accessibility provisions, disaggregation of data by gender and disability and intersectionality.

Once we know more about the timeline for trialogue we will request support of EDF’s members to contact their governments.

1. **Revision of the Victims’ Rights Directive**

The Commission will start to revise the Victims’ Rights Directive, that covers the rights of victims of crimes in the European Union, which include victims of violence against women and domestic violence. We will prepare amendments proposal to send to the European Commission and participate in the [open public consultation](https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/13096-Criminal-justice-EU-rules-on-victims%E2%80%99-rights-update-/public-consultation_en) on the topic.