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[INTRODUCTORY MUSIC] You are listening to For the Record podcast brought to you by the European Disability Forum. We want and accessible stronger Europe, a more inclusive society, to make sure that no one face discrimination, Nothing about us without us..

[00:59]

Hello this is Loredana Dicsi, I am the membership internal communications and youth officer at EDF and I will be the moderator of this episode so your hosts. Let me introduce the two very special guests that we have with us. You will hear from Francesca Bianchi in charge of international relations at the Italian union of the blind and partially sighted and Kamil Goungor working at the European network on independent living. They both know what it means to fight for the rights of persons with disabilities, to fight for human rights. They are actively involved in the disability movement at the National European and global members of the EDF youth committee and they also have something else in common, they both love to travel and they are strong advocates.

[01:59]

Welcome Francesca, Kamil. I'm really happy to share with you this moment. Thank you. Hello hello hello Francesca and thank you very much for accepting the invitation to being with us today. With the podcast we are revising the history of hideous and although you are representing the younger part of the organisation. I would like to ask you if you remember your first contact moment with EDF. Yes, in 2013 participating in the seminar establishing effective communication and decision-making structures in a youth network and increasing the Democratic

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Participation or visually impaired in Europe that was organised by the German federation of the blind and partially sighted and use international occasion. Give a speech on the work of the European blind Union commission for liaising with the EU and collaboration with the European lizard from brother for understood the importance and the value of working at European level or raising awareness of people with disabilities. I look at the area of 4 from a distance and the time and they're so it is a dream to be able to participate in such active this one day a dream indeed, but your dream became a reality because you are beyond the EU even have worked on global.

[04:00]

What about you Kamil? Thank you again not remembering and yeah, I got free bus from my memory. Do you find out when my friends contact with EDF was in 2015? I was there to make my volunteering service in Belgium vs. And I was working very closely with laminate and Peter was at that point board member of CDs and also what member of an independent living in which I was wondering and Peter invited me to join the EDF board meeting. I think in November or something of 2015.

[04:59]

That was the first time. Yeah, I took it to join and I was that new things you people in was like a very big. You know how I never seem to know accessible and the diverse meeting on disability is was the first time I met us Mr remember where the president and the first time I met you at that point my first meeting also indeed at an idiot because I'm just accepted as a new employee but I was to start a little bit later. I remember very well. That's nice meeting her The Impressions were at the same from very strong since then and I would like to

[05:59]

Both of you, do you think that young persons with disabilities have been hurt or are being are being taken into account the European policy process especially for example in the two areas of youth and Disability policies. How do you receive use representation within the EU Arena with you first you strategy doesn't tend to the 2018 one for the period 2019 to 2010 - 7 and now the European year of fuse 222 European Union has been taking young people into account. It's committed to involving them yr.no leads.

[06:59]

Good Intent of the USD to Sean's regarding these and loads of program is an initiative party in place such as sorry you I must underline that there is a need of support for participation especially as regards the most vulnerable in fact he was before Harriers affection you your strategy 2019/2020 7r engage empower and all of these three words are ready fundamental, but I think that empower is that instrumental for young people to be really engaged and connected so becoming able to give their contribution to the community they belong to.

[07:59]

Tidy in general regarding representation I must say that I had the opportunity to represent and speak on the outside video on several occasions unusual related to young people such as the European day of persons with disabilities in 2018 engagement as a member of the Advisory Board of the project in create the causes of the European solidarity Corps general line train in the ministerial conference on disability in Paris or by SC hearing on the employment of fuel food disabilities dialogue with commissioners meet last June this is certainly challenging and rewarding my impression is that sometime it is easy to receive a satisfaction verbal feedback.

[08:59]

Much more difficult to see effective concrete steps taken, so I've been shared any anywhere taking into account the European policy areas and start saying that not not as much as we probably goodnight.

[09:33]

I think for example that I mean we still have steps to do and you know to bring young Voices to the forefront event medallion European Union disability organisation send on this level you know where you went. There is even more used engagement. So you know example and on

things like disability policy wait. See you mentioned. You have face you know to be selected to speak about some people like us like in Chester have the opportunity and vs. Falcons participated in meetings and and

[10:32]

Sensor in decision-making process, but still a lot of things to be done so yeah, what's the best thing to be seen prevent and this is changing year-by-year there by day. I see more and more young people and one of the other members of the committee. Please with had some fantastic experiences with your information with the UN with Callum and Ella this morning with Eamonn Holmes

[11:31]

And you not have to make about prices and to speak about policy and policy to bring the disability perspective the weather at present you say that we can always in for more and you would like to see more and I'm wondering why do you think also are enough aware young people with disabilities of their opportunities? What could also the disability movement morto involve engage more young people with disabilities in away because you know if you're meeting me if you need me everyone says that if you are the people you know and we are on the spotlight very using on is good and disseminate.

[12:31]

Super strong fantastic, but very often we don't suffer the people behind their specific about me or you know where you live. So it's going off to that and not necessary to constantly what process with example.

[13:16]

I'm speaking people in my account, please with you. Don't was very good potential fantastic. People are not stuff about you know disability movement about advocacy about our lives and they're asking question so we need to and I think I've got any work with no it's time to be the bridge. You know what is that to make sure that I know these people why not engaged when will try to learn and understand better. You know what's happening in there.

[14:16]

What do you think how can we connect young people with disabilities with the disability movement was the and Deezer wonderful opportunity for young people to empower themselves to contribute to be active and I finger you. You've committee will ever an important occasion to spread boys and Camille and me and all the other guys will be at their disposal to have them and to co-operate together to empower the voice of youngsters in Europe but I have to say you also the time. I totally agree with what he said and I think that you've people are not always aware of the importance of.

[15:16]

Ladies ability movement and the leaders of the association to which they belong do not always allow them to to have the necessary or after them the support they need to express themselves as I was

saying earlier in the event of fuel food disabilities essential. There is no doubt that the EFL effectively supporting me and so the other guys. I'm very grateful for these because I'm poor my personality and goes to my professional skills thanks to this but I think also that there are some people has a key role in the personal commitment is very important.

[16:15]

Each person as an important responsibility and also an important responsibility from national an umbrella association with which nothing is impossible in the study organisation give place and invite young people at the table. That's essential and we see why you're so it is essential because Camille has mentioned before this year. It's especially for young people because it's european year of US president declared this as a young people. What do you think which are the challenges of young people with disabilities in the future of Europe I think that the biggest challenge for young persons with disabilities.

[17:15]

32 employer meant work is fundamental for young people with disabilities not only for generating an income and giving them access to Social Security but also to achieve social inclusion and to fully leave community and personally youth with disabilities. Do not always manage to get a job according to their skills and their relation to often tied to basic level jobs with a minimum wage in the training that are for free specific needs very high cost of this is why it is essential to provide for them to not to lose their disability benefits even when employment.

[18:15]

What's up on the mental recognition of services in support of people with disabilities in the EU member state regardless of nationality we will have to fight to achieve the the new disability card for Cena in the Union of equality strategy for 21/2030 is devised and implemented in order to keep Social Protection and benefits when moving from one EU member state to another this is the holy way to acquire a really use his own dimension and what you the real freedom of movement come in the new we are very engaged in the industry because we think.

[19:15]

Very important EU citizen is the same opportunity and the same possibility indeed that is essential because the day off today right of EU citizens the right to move for studies work and personal life alarm dream for many persons with disability for you the challenges. Thank you. Thank you for the Western I mean it's a big question when you talk about challenges. We can talk forever before someone sentence about the photos of them. I think it's fantastic that.

[20:09]

You know there 2022 was.

[20:13]

Decided by car from the lion engine oil healthier than the importance of an invoice and the understands our without any person to play The Society so yeah, I am happy that we have engaged with visibility and my voice is like them with the members in plants of recently in the you know what's don't use component in many other events.

[21:14]

Francesca mention if you like employment issues that are important you know for our inclusion participation in the future societies may be at the institutionalisation and independent independent and will have to put on in their life so we know and finally I want to go very quickly out of the disability spare and sales on challenges which are not specifically disability-related, but I'll really affect thinking of people affected by climate crisis which is the biggest problem of the future in myopia and winner.

[22:14]

What's the work of ETF and now the people that when people are disabled people imagine the ones that pay the best you know we are fine and we want to make sure that you know the climate responses everything. What's the weather in Crisis like socioeconomic challenges facing now in Europe you know counting young person make a diversion. Why don't you know in such a situation when everything is expensive you don't have the right support in this kind of difficulties or indeed and we should be certainly invited at the table when discussing climate change.

[23:14]

have the effects of it that's that essential and in this view because we are speaking about the few how how do you see the future of our movement before I think we need to start from outside organisation from the disability movement and make sure that the people in the Big Yellow perspective so we need to engage and people meaning for it and when I say meaning for a don't mean on me in communities which is fantastic and when it's coming in the weather looked around Ireland

[24:06]

Specific mission battery not included in the world and the process of our organisation and the future of the movement restaurant and being put forward so I think we need to make space for them into the last the Next Generation and then I think that the future of our movement will be bright and I think that eaten intergenerational and so this population of on generations. You know I need 1 pence with make a blind future for the moment. Thank you. That's why I said that nicely said you need anything else to add to what time you said.

[25:06]

Really difficult but I think that's an order to shape 3D movement young people must not to be excluded from participation battery fully the give you open to Newquay to challenge themselves and despised by also the experience experience of significant role. I

think that is a key role on the surface and idea for should not only worker enclosed basin in partnership with butter ensure that after period of training Employment and still been young people.

[26:06]

To be part of the EDF decision-making processes even by means of a Statutory amendment to provide the fara dedicatii you I think that they didn't they will be in this future do today and I'm due today challenges also from there will be many there will be many challenges, but I think I believe that CDs or as all the Laura candy challenges always with the commitment of the of the contribution of primary one you in unfortunately we are coming to the end of this episode, but I would not want to leave us without asking you a common questions.

[27:06]

We are asking all our guests would join EDF podcast from your experience. Do you have a memory that's the most important lesson about fighting for disability rights in Europe Europe in the in the history of the devil like to highlight is the person who was my first contact EDF I do have personally and professionally alongside for those for has my mentor and Role Model for Samuels now. I have work sharing with fully and sometimes the same parties within to having the opportunity to watch for him to proactively effective contribution to the disability.

[28:06]

Lots of memories of his tireless worker from which I learnt the most important lesson responsibility commitment and upward, but I have also memory regarding myself from when I was giving the opportunity to speak at European day of persons with disabilities in 2018 a positive greatest hi gratifying feedback received made me understand that civil commitment is fundamental and everyone can make their own contribution to improving the living conditions of persons with disabilities by raising awareness in Society on policies in favour and how to say thank you to PDF for the opportunity has given to me no idea and lots of memory.

[29:06]

The persons that made Kiran and 4-minute you know what's up Sky important for me and I'm sorry for the other members of the committee and 4DS to make sure that everything is working again. You know you believe him you so we are you online of this person's that yeah, I would definitely remember I mentioned so thank you very much also full commitment names that also the other staff members you know in advance many of them and wanted to do and gauges. I will never forget for example the opportunity when I went to high level political Forum in New York representing in DSR mean. You know if you have put nominate anyone on the bus.

[30:06]

And it was a decision to nominate a young person and to trust that you know I would be in a position to do it in the Whale represent in the organisation event so this was something I don't forget for PIP

for other person that played and we could have in mind. I miss your period Peter Rabbit Halfords unit Lee he is not with us anymore. It's my love this sounds and noises of the biggest noses I got in the book my personal life gym. Cry. I want to to say he wants I am so he's missing from wherever he is of the moment and I need a lot of other people from the president in the director and to everyone you know there was a lot of support.

[31:06]

And grateful and then I finish with that because you know there is also some lesson and you know this is this girls. I would say three things that I will be back with me and maybe just before the next Generations that we shouldn't compromise with you know the transition and once in this kind of stuff when should aim for what we believe is right because it when you do you dump achieve anything fat?

[31:45]

What does Inc independent expect always but no thanks for us? It doesn't work like that. We should be as we say at the end. So anyone else's with can wish you know mate with other people so is that you will never satisfy. Everyone sometimes people have opposite interests or different opinions. So what is it possible this to stick to your values if you believe that this is what I think you are doing then. Don't bother. Thank you so much, Francesca

[32:45]

It has been a pleasure to share this minutes with you. Thank you so much for sharing your memories the lessons you learnt I really moved of what age I heard your presence today has shown us that the future of the disability movement can come with a strong pull of young people were active in them face of the new challenges ahead at EDF we keep working to ensure that our advocacy includes the perspective of youth with disabilities.

[33:31]

Norwich our youth committee plays a fundamental role. We want to make sure that all EU initiative are accessible and inclusive of young people with disabilities. Thank you for following us. We are looking forward to welcoming you to in in the next episode and auntie don't forget to follow us on social media and via our newsletter to stay up-to-date with our activities our upcoming events to see you soon. Bye. Thank you for listening to idiot podcast followers on the website and social media.