

## Application as candidate for the elections of the Members of the EDF Board at the AGA of the European Disability Forum on May 9 – 10, 2026 in Cyprus

Dear Sir or Madam,

I hereby apply for a Board position at the elections of the European Disability Forum AGA on May 9 – 10, 2026.

My name is Joachim Busch. I am a self advocate from the north of Germany. For many years I have been committed to advocating for the rights of persons with disabilities – in Germany, in Europe, and at the international level.

Since 1997, I have been active in the Council of Persons with Disabilities of the Federal Association Lebenshilfe. I have held various roles there, including positions on the Board of the Federal Association Lebenshilfe Germany.

For more than ten years I have been a member of the Federal Government's Inclusion Advisory Board for the Implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UN CRPD) in Germany.

At international level I was part of the delegation of the German Disability Council (DBR - Deutscher Behindertenrat) at both UN CRPD State Reviews in Geneva, representing the DBR.

For many years, I have also regularly participated, on behalf of the Federal Association Lebenshilfe, in the conferences of Inclusion Europe and Inclusion International.

It is important to me that persons with disabilities speak for their own rights. I have opinions to several topics: work, housing, participation etc.

I work in a reliable, calm, and committed way. I have extensive experience in committee work at national and international levels. For my work in committees I require assistance. I have very good experience with this. I have often worked with Antje Welke, an expert in disability laws, as my assistant for international work and during the State Reviews. She will also support me in my work as member of EDF's Board, if I am elected.

I would be very pleased to contribute my experience, knowledge, and motivation to the Board of the European Disability Forum.

I am very happy that the German Disability Council nominated me as candidate for the EDF Board. I hope, I will be elected.

Yours sincerely,

Joachim Busch

Lübeck, 26 February 2026