

Dear,

My name is **Soufiane El-Amrani**.

I am a **self-advocate**. I work as Accessibility Expert at Inclusion Europe, where I have been for over 17 years now.

I would like to present myself for election to the **Board of the European Disability Forum (EDF)**.

### **[People with intellectual disabilities need to be present and represented**

People with intellectual disabilities need to take part in decisions that affect their lives.

We are left out of political representation.

Not being able to bring our expertise to the table means our views are not reflected in policies.

It is important that people with intellectual disabilities are directly represented in the EDF Board.

I would be proud to become the first self-advocate on EDF's Board.

### **What I bring to the table**

I have been working in Inclusion Europe since 2008.

I am an accessibility and easy-to-read expert.

This means I help organizations make their documents **clear and accessible** so that everyone can understand them.

I also have a lot of experience with (in-)accessible public transport and public services. I give speeches and trainings on accessibility.

I work closely with self-advocates from around Europe who are part of the European Platform of Self-Advocates.

I learn from them about the situation in their countries, what issues need to be addressed and what does or doesn't work well.

I am a member of the Council of Inclusion International.

I know how boards work, how to listen to different opinions, and how to contribute to the work of the organisation.

I also bring a lot of experience communicating about disability rights.

I do videos for YouTube, write posts on LinkedIn, and speak at conferences.

I have been interviewed for many media such as websites and newspapers.

I think getting our message about disability rights to as many people as possible is very important.

## **[My priorities if I am elected to the Board]**

If I become a member of the EDF Board, I would like to work on three main things:

1. Making sure that EDF activities **are inclusive** of people with intellectual disabilities. I also want to listen to all EDF members and make sure disability rights improve all over Europe.
2. **Accessibility of public transport and public services.**

I experience a lot of obstacles every day I want to get in the metro or bus in Brussels. Or when I travel by plane for work. But accessibility is not only for people who have a physical disability.

3. **End of institutions. Inclusion in the community.**

Many people with disabilities live in institutions.

I want to support **deinstitutionalisation**, so everyone can live in their community with the support they need.

I would be happy to meet with you to hear about the challenges the people you represent face and your ideas for better inclusion.

Thank you very much for reading my letter and for considering my candidacy.

With kind regards,

**Soufiane El Amrani**

Self-advocate and accessibility expert

See more of my work on [LinkedIn](#)