



Just4All

WP4. Training of legal practitioners

BRIDGING THE GAPS: Disability legislation, policies and best practices. The role of lawyers and judges in the access to justice for persons with disabilities.

24 March 2021

16:00 – 18:00 CEST

Where: Webinar

Working language: English-Spanish

Registration form: <https://forms.gle/uzg3yJH1k8mv1W6N9>

CONTEXT

Across Member States of the European Union, persons with disabilities are yet to be granted full access to justice. They experience high rates of direct, indirect and structural discrimination, as well as intersecting forms of discrimination both in legislation and in policies and practices.

The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UN CRPD), alongside the European Charter of Fundamental Rights and other policies of the European Commission on disability, such as the European Accessibility Act, make up the essential international and regional legal framework with respect to the rights of persons with disabilities. However, each Member State is to adopt national legislation and policies aimed to respect, protect and fulfil the rights of persons with disabilities.

OBJECTIVES AND TARGET

On the basis of the previous results of the project, this workshop is aimed at improving the knowledge and awareness of legal practitioners on the situation of disability considering the most relevant legislation, case law



and policies related, as a condition to make them more competent in their role in the implementation of the European legislative framework regarding this field.

This workshop will bring together lawyers and judges from different European States, to compare theory and practice and detect which aspects may be improved in benefit of the people with disabilities and the coherence of the EU legal system.

STRUCTURE

The session will be divided in three blocks. In the first one, about “International and the European legal framework on disability from the perspective of the Lawyers and Judges”, participants will have the opportunity to reflect on the International and European rules and policies, particularly on the CRPD and the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union as well as on the main European Commission Policies on disability, including the European Accessibility Act.

The second part will be devoted to the legal framework for the work of lawyers and judges. These legal professionals will address their national rules, comparing theory and practice and reflecting on the better way to improve their practices in benefit of the persons with disabilities.

Finally, some of the best practices developed by lawyers and judges will be shared, to finish with a presentation of the main conclusions of the workshop that will be compared with the results of the other workshops to be organized with legal professionals of different European countries.

DRAFT PROGRAMME

16:00

Welcome and Introduction

16.15

Moderator: Fundación ONCE (tbc)

- Victoria Ortega, President of the Spanish National Bar
- Juan Manuel Fernández, Member of the General Council of the Judiciary and President of the Justice and Disability Forum
- Filippo Donatti, President of European Network of Councils for the Judiciary
- Representative of Consultative Council of European Judges (tbc)
- Panagiotis Perakis, Member of the Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe (CCBE) and Chairman of the Access to Justice Committee CCBE

16.15

The international and European legal framework on disability

16.45

Moderator: UC3M (tbc)

- Catherine Naughton, Director of the European Disability Forum



16.45 **The guarantee of access to justice for persons with disabilities in the exercise**
17.15 **of Lawyers and Judges profession in Europe**

Moderator: EDF (tbc)

- Juan Manuel Fernández, Member of the General Council of the Judiciary and President of the Justice and Disability Forum
- Torcuato Recover, Lawyer, Coordinator of the Plena Inclusión National Network of Legal Professionals

17:15 **Best practices / case law**

17:45 Moderator: Konstantina Leventi. EASPD Policy Officer

- Tereza Bartová, Kvalita v Praxi
- Representative of Prosecutors (tbc)

17:45 **Concluding Remarks**

18:00 Rafael de Asís Roig, Professor of Philosophy of Law, UC3M



Just4All

The Just4all project aims to promote access to justice for persons with disabilities by raising awareness of the needs of persons with disabilities and develop training activities for legal practitioners. Just4All seeks to promote the effective implementation of the European Charter of Fundamental Rights, the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and EU legislation on disability. The project is also looking at cross-cutting issues of gender and age and consider the variety of legal domains that the justice system entails.

Organisations: **Fundación Once** (coordinator, Spain), **Universidad Carlos III** (Spain), **EASPD** (EU), **EDF** (EU), **Thomson Reuters** (Spain).

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