

The rights of people with intellectual disabilities and people with mental health problems



June 2011

WHO ARE WE?



The European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights is called FRA for short.

The FRA gives advice about how to protect people's rights.

Rights are things all people are entitled to – people with disabilities as well. Another word for entitled is allowed.



The FRA is an organisation of the European Union.

WHAT IS THIS PROJECT ABOUT?



The FRA collects information about the rights of people with intellectual disabilities and the rights of people with mental health problems.



People with intellectual disabilities find it hard to learn new things.

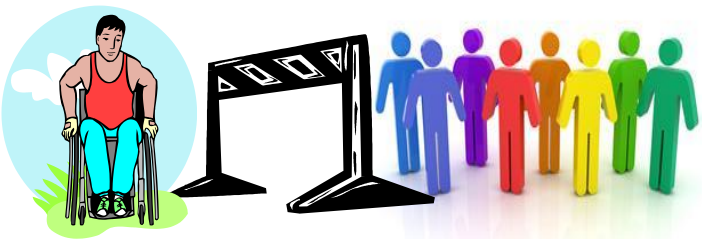
People with mental health problems sometimes find it hard to cope with the normal stresses of life.

People with mental health problems and people with intellectual disabilities are different from each other.

But they often face similar problems:

They face discrimination.

Discrimination is when one person or a group of people are not treated in a fair way.



People with mental health problems and people with intellectual disabilities are different from each other.

But they often face similar problems:



They are treated differently and unfairly.

This is because people have opinions of people with disabilities not based on facts.

WHY DO WE DO THIS PROJECT?



FRA is doing this project to make sure that people with intellectual disabilities and people with mental health problems can enjoy their rights just as everyone else.

WHY DO WE DO THIS PROJECT?



- To help explain the United Nations Convention on the rights of people with disabilities.



Convention is an agreement between different countries about a set of rights that apply to everyone. Countries who sign an agreement should do what the agreement says.



- To help people with disabilities live independently and be part of society.

WHAT WILL WE DO?



The FRA will collect and study information about the laws that protect the rights of people with disabilities in the European Union.



- European law and the European Disability Strategy (2010-2020)



- The law of countries of the European Union

We will focus on important documents
for the rights of people with disabilities.

These documents are called:



- United Nations Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities



- European Convention on Human Rights

First report



The rights of people with mental health problems and intellectual disabilities to take part in politics



The right to political participation of persons with mental health problems and persons with intellectual disabilities

October 2010



WHAT ELSE WILL WE DO?



FRA will work with other people and organisations to find out more about the rights and the problems that people with disabilities have.

For example the FRA will speak with politicians from the countries of the European Union.



FRA will speak with people who work or care for people with disabilities, for example personal assistants or parents.



*“Even if I cannot speak,
it doesn’t mean I have
nothing to say”*

Person with an intellectual disability
from Sweden

WHAT ELSE WILL WE DO?



The FRA will speak **with** people with disabilities to find out their opinion on their rights.

We will speak with people with disabilities in different countries in Europe.
These countries are:

-  Bulgaria
-  France
-  Germany
-  Greece

-  Hungary
-  Latvia
-  Romania
-  Sweden
-  United Kingdom

The FRA will talk with people with disabilities about:



Their right to live independently and make their own choices about how and where to live.

The FRA will talk with people with disabilities about:

Their rights to be equal and treated respectfully and to make decisions for themselves.



The FRA will talk with people with disabilities about:

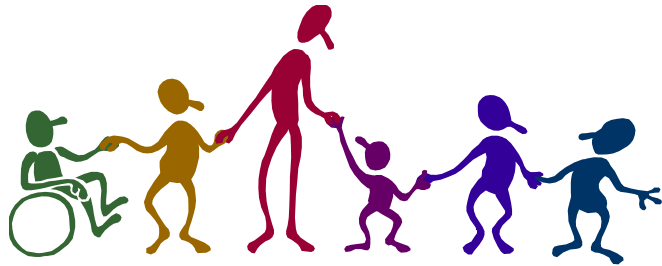


The protection of their rights in places where people look after them and their protection from violence and abuse.

The FRA will talk with people with disabilities about:



Their right to complain to a court when their rights are not respected.



This will help the FRA to better understand what changes need to happen.



Then the FRA will be able to tell people about the problems of people with disabilities.

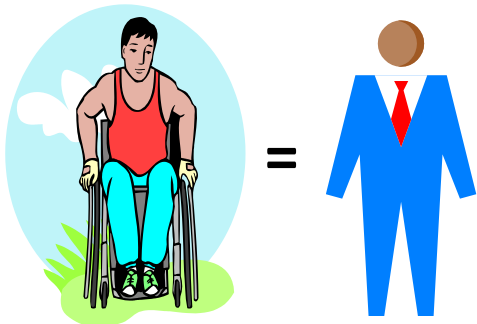


The FRA will give some suggestions for how to make things better.

The information collected helps the European Union and people who take decisions in the European countries:



- to promote equality and
- protect the rights of persons with disabilities when they make new laws and decide on policies.



FRA wants everyone to help remove the barriers for people with disabilities.

FRA shows how much people with disabilities can do with the right help and support.

See our postcard on the next slides.



*You must not go out
on your own!*

*The person
with a disability
is the problem.*



*You don't need
an education!*



You are sick!



*You should not have
a relationship!*

The “unable” model of disability

The enabling model of disability



I'm a great cook!

With the right kitchen tools!

I run my own business!



With an adapted computer.

The barriers are the problem.



I can go to a restaurant!



With a personal assistant, friends and/or by taxi.

I can drive!



With an automatic car!

Are you taking the rights approach?



For more information

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