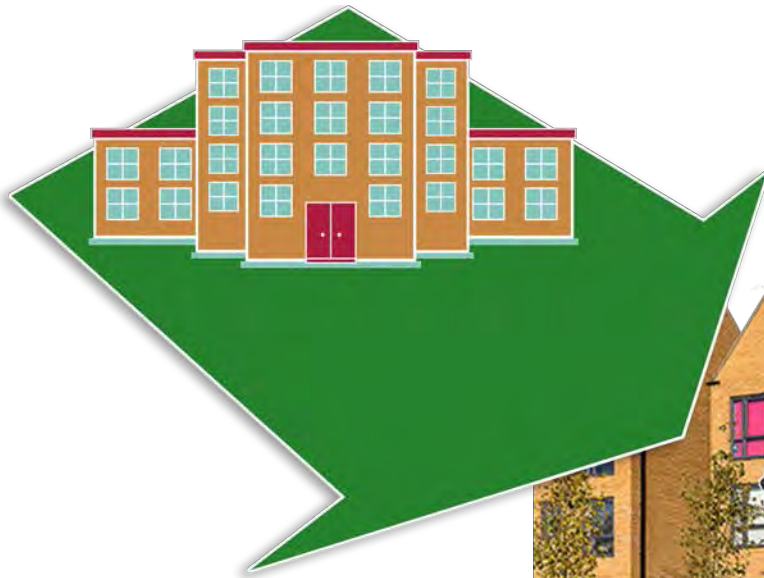


From institutions to community living



Part 3: **Outcomes
for people with
disabilities**

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From institutions to community living



An **institution** is where people with disabilities live together away from other people.



The **community** is where all different people live close to each other. They live close to their families and friends.



This report has been written by the **European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights**. We are called FRA for short.



The **European Union (EU)** is a group of 28 countries in Europe who work together.



Fundamental rights are things that everyone has. For example, the right to vote and the right to get married.



We help to make sure everyone in the **EU** can use their rights.



FRA is looking at how to help people with disabilities move from living in institutions to living in their local community with support.



This report is one of 3 reports which look at different parts of this issue.

This is the third report. It looks at the lives of people with disabilities who are living independently in their local community.



The first report looks at what the EU and the 28 countries have agreed to do.



The second report looks at the money that is needed to help people move.

Living in the community



The United Nations has agreed that people with disabilities have the right to live in the community.



The **United Nations (UN)** is where all the countries in the world meet together to agree things.



This agreement is written down in Article 19 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).



The UN says that living in the community includes:

Choice:

Choice means having the chance to choose:

- Where you live
- Who you live with



It is also having the choice about how you are supported.

Support:

Support means you have access to a range of services, including personal assistance, which help you to live and take part in your community.





This support should:

- Respect you as an individual person



- Help you to take part and be included in things that are going on



Accessible services:

Accessible services means that people with a disability should be able to use the same services and **facilities** as everyone else.



Facilities are places, buildings, transport or bits of equipment.

This report



We collected the information for this report by:

- Looking at information collected in a survey by the EU



- Looking at the information that was already produced by each country



We looked at the differences in life between people with disabilities and people without disabilities.



We were not able to find information about people with disabilities who are living in institutions.



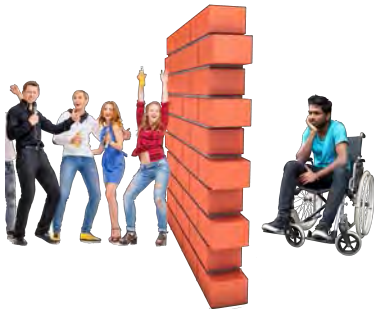
We think that about 1.2million people with disabilities are living in institutions in Europe.

The lives of people with disabilities

When we looked at the information, we found that people with disabilities living in the community:



- Generally have a worse life than people without disabilities



- Often feel they cannot choose how to live their lives. They often feel left out of things



- Are less happy with the place they live in



- Often do not get the help they need for daily living



- Have difficulties using services like: shopping, banking, the post, health and transport



There is not enough up-to-date information about the lives of people with disabilities in Europe.

Living independently



We looked at how good each country is at helping people with disabilities to live independently.



Being able to decide how to live your life in the community

We found that 7 out of 10 people with disabilities in the EU say they can choose how they live in the community.



But in some countries fewer people can choose. In Bulgaria less than half of people with disabilities said they could choose how they live.

Feeling left out



In the EU one in every 6 people with disabilities said that they weren't included in things.



About a quarter of people with severe disabilities felt left out.

Choosing where to live and who to live with



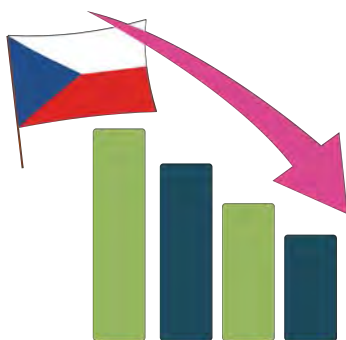
We found that in many EU countries people have to live in institutions.



They don't get any choice about where to live or who they can live with.



In the Netherlands over 80,000 people were living in institutions in 2014.



In the Czech Republic the number has gone down from about 14,000 in 2010 to about 13,000 in 2013.



In some countries the number of people with disabilities living in institutions has been going up.

Happy with where you live



The survey asked people living in the community if they were happy with where they live.



We asked them to give a mark out of 10.



The average mark given by people with disabilities was just over 7 out of 10.

Community support services



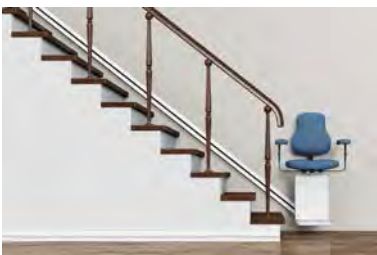
All EU countries provide some services to help people with disabilities to live in the community.



In the countries which have information two thirds of people with disabilities got some support with at least one daily task.



Most of this was a type of personal assistance.



But some support was from equipment or an adaption to the house.



A quarter of people said that the support they got was not enough.



About a third of the people who weren't getting any help said that they needed help.



Mostly people wanted more support from a personal assistant.

Accessing community services

The survey asked people if they were able to access community services and facilities which were supposed to be available to everyone.



The survey asked about:

- Shopping for food



- Banking



- The post



- Healthcare



- Public transport



4 out of every 10 people with disabilities said they had difficulty accessing these services.

Nearly everyone said that it was hard for people with disabilities to:



- Go to school



- Have a job



- Vote



- Move around freely



- Go on holiday

What we think

The **FRA** thinks that the countries of the EU should:



- Make sure that they give people with disabilities a good choice over where and how they live in the community



- Close their institutions



- Make sure that there are enough good personal support workers so that people with disabilities can choose the right person for them



- Make laws that say that all goods and services should be equally accessible to people with disabilities



We also think that the EU should:

- Make rules about how goods and services should be accessible to people with disabilities.



- Collect up-to-date information about how people with disabilities are living.



- Work with other organisations to find new ways to collect information about people with disabilities

For more information

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