

Europe for us!

The Newsletter of the European Self-Advocates Movement

January 2004



Editorial

Meetings are very important.
You can get important information at meetings.

People with learning disabilities will find it difficult
to attend meetings.

But at some meetings
you can understand what the speaker says
Because he knows you are there.

Try to be informed of these meetings and try to attend them.
It is important.

Ulla Topi
President of EPSA



Information

Editorial 1

Rules for
meetings and
Conferences 1

Before the
meeting 2

During the
meeting 3

After the
meeting 3

Meetings are
for everybody 4

More support 4

Rules for meetings and Conferences

Inclusion Europe wants to publish a leaflet.
This leaflet will speak about Rules for meeting.
The name of the leaflet will be
Rules for meetings, conferences and and other Events.

The leaflet will tell self-advocates
how to participate during a meeting.

It will explain what support self-
advocates need.



In this newspaper, we give you a draft of the text.

Could you tell us:

- What you do not understand
- What you would add
- What you would take off

Please, send Inclusion Europe a letter or an e-mail
Or give us a phone call
to tell us what you think



With support of the
European
Community

Before the meeting

You should get all documents
2 weeks before the meeting.

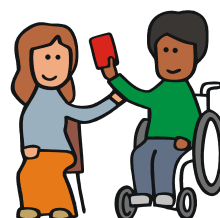


Documents that are important for self-advocates
should be in easy-to-understand language.



You should prepare well for each meeting.
You could talk about the questions
with your support person.

Sometimes there is a preparation meeting for self-advocates
before the main meeting.



At big conferences, there can be some meetings
which are more accessible than others.



Watch out for the easy-to-understand
symbol in the programme.

Choose your meetings according to your needs and interests.

If you have special needs when attending meetings,
contact the organisers.



During the meeting

Sometimes you may not understand what the speaker says.
Then you should ask questions.



You can also use the cards to tell the speaker what you want.



Use the green card to show the speaker that you agree.



Use the yellow card to tell the speaker to speak slower.



Use the red card to tell the speaker to stop for a short time.



The cards give you a lot of power.
Please use them with responsibility.

Do not speak during a presentation.
Do not interrupt other people when they are speaking.



Speak only about the topic that is on the agenda.
It is the task of your support person to remind you about this.

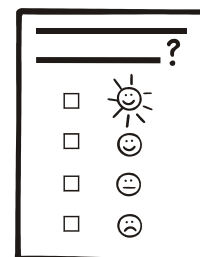
When you speak, speak slowly and clearly.
This is very important in meetings with people from other countries.
You might need to make small pauses to give them time to understand.
You can complain when other people do not follow the rules.

After the meeting

Sometimes you get a form asking you how you liked the meeting.

It is very important that you fill in this form.

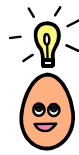
This will help to make the next meeting even better.



Meetings are for everybody

Meetings are very useful for all people.

At meetings people learn what other people think.



At some meetings you can talk to people from other countries.



Meetings cost a lot of time and money.

All of us must make sure that they run well.

We also must make sure that everybody can take part.

These rules will help you to make this meeting good for everybody



- To get information
- To tell us about news and meetings

Please contact us!

Inclusion Europe

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More support

Inclusion Europe wants make interesting and accessible meetings for everybody.

We also want to help other people and organizations to make good meetings.

Inclusion Europe also wants to publish :

- Guidelines for accessible presentations
- Guidelines for organisers of meetings, conferences and other events.

Guidelines for accessible presentations are for people who speak at the meetings and conference. The guidelines will help speakers to prepare good presentation in easy to understand form.

Guidelines for organisers are for people who prepare meetings and conferences. It will help them to prepare good meeting and will tell them how to make sure that the meeting is also good for self-advocates.

