

# Inclusion Europe

The European Association of Societies  
of Persons with Intellectual Disability and their Families

## Sožitje

The Slovenian Association for Persons with Intellectual Disability

“Equal opportunities ?”

People with intellectual disability and their families  
in Slovenia

\_\_\_\_\_ **Position Paper** \_\_\_\_\_

This paper includes  
summaries in easy-to-  
read language for  
people with intellectual  
disability.



Association Sožitje in cooperation with Inclusion Europe has undertaken a detailed survey of the human rights situation of persons with intellectual disability and their families in Slovenia. On the basis of the UN Standard Rules on the Equalisation of Opportunities for People with Disabilities this survey has revealed many problems and shortcomings in Slovenia. The findings of the survey have been presented in English and Slovenian at European and national level.

The main issues for Slovenia were:

### **Equalization of opportunities for persons with intellectual disability**

People with intellectual or any other disability do not have equal opportunities in Slovenia. Equalisation of opportunities for persons with intellectual disability in all aspects of life should become a fact during their life time.

### **Individual rights**

Individual rights need to be harmonised and, on the practical level, transferred from institutions to the individuals. There should be a transfer of financial rights to an individual rightful claimant, and there should be equal conditions regarding the security of those who live in institutions and those who live with their families.

### **Education and Employment**

The new legislation on Guidance of Persons with Special Needs must be implemented. New programmes should be prepared for all levels of education of persons with intellectual disability.

The Law on Education and Employment of Persons with disability urgently needs to be changed in a way to include the introduction of a quota system, and in order to create more ways of employment for persons with disability.

Sožitje and Inclusion Europe have collected information on the situation of people with intellectual disability in Slovenia. Brochures were published in English and Slovenian language. They include the following information:

Persons with intellectual disability must have equal chances in life. They should have equal chances now and not only in many years.

Everybody should have the same rights as everybody else. The government should give money to disabled persons and not to institutions. People who live at home with their families should have equal rights.

There must be better education of people with intellectual disability. The law should be changed so that there are reserved work places for disabled people.

To improve the situation of persons with intellectual disability in Slovenia, the association Sožitje and Inclusion Europe challenge

**- the European Commission**

- to notify the Slovenian government that it received the national report “Human Rights of Persons with Intellectual Disability” from the Slovenian Association for Persons with Intellectual Disability - Sožitje.
- to present its own view about the national report and to compare it with the reports issued by the government of Slovenia.

**- Members of the European Parliament**

- to highlight disability issues in all contacts with the Slovenian Parliament.
- to include disability issues in the agenda of the Joint Parliamentary Committee and to highlight disability in the Parliament’s comments on the accession report of the European Commission.

**- the Government of Slovenia**

- to adopt as soon as possible the law on equal opportunities and the law on disability organisations.
- to accept as soon as possible a corresponding operational sub-system of the new Law on Guidance of Persons with Special Needs.
- to prepare a national strategy for persons with disability.

**- the Permanent Representation of Slovenia to the European Union**

- to support the Slovenian disability movements in all contacts with the European Union.

**- the Council of Europe**

- to notify the Slovenian government that it received the national report “Human Rights of Persons with Intellectual Disability” from the Slovenian Association for Persons with Intellectual Disability - Sožitje.

We want the following:

The European Commission should tell the government in Slovenia that it has received our reports.  
It should compare our report to what the government says about disabled people.

Members of the European Parliament should talk with Slovenian Parliamentarians about disability.  
They should put disability on the agenda of meetings.

The government of Slovenia should agree to new laws for disabled people.  
It should also work on a national plan for disabled people.

The “embassy” of Slovenia to the European Union should support Slovenian disability organisations.

The Council of Europe should tell the government in Slovenia that it has received our reports.