

FOR A BARRIER-FREE SLOVENIA

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Abstract

According to the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, persons with disabilities include those who suffer from long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which, in interaction with various barriers, may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others. This Convention binds both the Republic of Slovenia and the European Union to empower persons with disabilities so that they can enjoy their full rights, and benefit fully from participating in society. The analysis of the Action Programme for Persons with Disabilities 2007-2013 shows that the objectives have been achieved mainly at the normative level, while the situation in the key areas still give rise to concern. The main issue here is the so-called »vicious circle of poverty«. In the EU Development Strategy 2010-2020 the EU Disability Strategy 2010-2020 has been placed within the framework of the European Platform against Poverty and Social Exclusion. The Strategy is focused on the following main areas: accessibility, participation, equality, employment, education and training, social protection and health. All concrete activities of the EU will be devoted to improving the situation in these areas, including the area of lifelong learning, whereby the lifelong learning of persons with disabilities shall be developed in accordance with the following: »Nothing about disabled people without disabled people«.

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