



European Accessibility Act - Making full accessibility reality

Tallinn, 7th October 2017

- ◆ Feedback from parallel workshop focusing on

Accessibility as a human right

- ◆ Number of participants: 22
- ◆ Moderator: Ms. **Merit Ulvik**, Office of the Gender Equality and Equal Treatment Commissioner
- ◆ Rapporteur: Ms. **Anneli Habicht**, Estonian Chamber of Disabled People



Our panel's expertise

- ◆ **Mr. Raimo Saadi**, Estonian Ministry of Social Affairs
- ◆ **Ms. Catherine Naughton**, European Disability Forum
- ◆ **Ms. Keiu Roosimägi**, Estonian Association of Disabled Women, NGO Helpific
- ◆ **Ms. Monica Lõvi**, Board member of Estonian Chamber of Disabled People, board member of the Estonian Federation of the Blind





EUROPE Estonian Presidency of the Council of the European Union

EUROPEAN DISABILITY FORUM

KÜSK Kodanikuühiskonna Sihtkapital

PH Eesti Põlvkonda Vahetuks Riik / THE EUROPEAN RESPONSIBILITY OF CAREERS PROGRAM

KONVERENTS / CONFERENCE

EUROOPA LIGIPÄÄSETAVUSEDIREKTIIV – MUUDAME LIGIPÄÄSETAVUSE REAALSUSEKS

THE EUROPEAN ACCESSIBILITY ACT – MAKING FULL ACCESSIBILITY REALITY

TÖÖRÜHM 3
WORKSHOP 3



Questions discussed and key findings

- ◆ What do we mean by accessibility as a human right – in the light of CRPD, in the light of dignity?

Article 9 in CRPD – Accessibility - is the precondition for access to many other rights - the right to work, the right to have education, the right to take part in political life etc. Art 9 is like the starting block for the other articles.



Questions discussed and key findings

- ◆ How to solve the major dilemma - cost as a reason to deny accessibility OR accessibility as reasonable accommodation?

The cost cannot be a reason for denying accessibility, specially for the new infrastructure!

Furthermore – there is still a discussion whether accessible solutions are always more expensive – e. g. web-platform - are the accessible platforms really more expensive? Do we have calculations?



Questions discussed and key findings

- ◆ How is the human rights perspective of accessibility incorporated into national law (accessibility acts, equal treatment acts)?

Passing accessibility issue through several national laws is the good model.

Not only regulations make the services more accessible, the implementation is equally important – e. g. implementing state laws on the local level is the big problem in Estonia.



Good practices

- ◆ *Sharing economy - e. g. NGO Helpific, Uber, Taxify etc.*
- ◆ *Combined and flexible services: sign language AND subtitles – e. g. UK/BBC*
- ◆ *Written and virtual accessibility guidelines issued by disability organisations*

Sharing the good practices is one of the key aspects to support better and wider accessibility.



What next?

- ◆ *We need the facts - research and data collections*
- ◆ *All the products and services should be designed with the users-experts, but users-experts need the resources to participate.*
- ◆ *Need to move from reactivity to proactivity – all sectors.*

Thank you!

