

THE PARTICIPATION OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES IN THE ELECTORAL PROCESS

MONDAY, 4 DECEMBER 2023
16:00 - 18:30

MEETING ROOM
ANTALL 6Q2

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT
BRUSSELS



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AGENDA

Chaired by:

Dragoş Pîslaru,
Chair of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

Interparliamentary Committee Meeting

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT - NATIONAL PARLIAMENTS

Programme

16:00 - 16:15: Opening session chaired by EMPL Chair, Dragoş Pîslaru

- Welcoming words by EP President **Roberta METSOLA** (video message)
- Introductory speech by EP Vice-President **Evelyn REGNER**

Start of the working sessions

Introduction by EMPL Chair, **Dragoş PÎSLARU**

16:15 - 16:55: Session I: “Participation of persons with disabilities in the electoral process - State of play and remaining obstacles”

The session will explore the state of play compared to the European elections in 2019: Where has progress been made in the Member States? Which legal or accessibility barriers remain? What are the biggest challenges Member States face at national level?

Keynote speech:

- **Pat CLARKE, EDF Vice President** - Presentation of EDF Human rights report on political participation of persons with disabilities

Intervention:

- **Irena MOOZOVA**, Deputy Director-General for International Dimension of Justice Policies, Rule of Law and Equality, DG JUST, European Commission

Launching the debate:

- **Ana MIRANDA**, PETI vice-chair: Input received from petitions

Discussion with National Parliamentarians and Members of the European Parliament based on experiences in the Member States.

16:55 - 18:15: Session II: “Preparing for the European elections 2024 - How can improvements still be achieved?”

This session will explore how and which improvements can be made to facilitate the accessibility for persons with disabilities to elections.

Keynote speeches:

- **Karine LALIEUX**, Belgian Minister of Pensions and Social Integration: How to ensure political participation of PwD in European elections

Launching the debate:

- **Juan Carlos SERRANO, Spanish Senate**: Best practises after recent national elections
- **Domènec RUIZ DEVESA** AFCO co-rapporteur on 2024 European elections: Suggestions from the perspective of the AFCO Committee

Discussion with National Parliamentarians, Members of the European Parliament and National Disability Coordinators based on experiences in the Member States.

18:15 - 18:30: Closing remarks

- **Dragoş PÎSLARU**, EMPL Committee Chair