



**4th European  
Independent Living  
Day, May 5<sup>th</sup> 2017 –  
Report**



Without [Independent Living](#), my life as the ENIL Director would not be possible. Without personal assistance, I would be dependent on family and friends. Many friends of mine do not access Independent Living; some live in institutions, some live imprisoned in their own home. Today's campaign is to raise awareness on Independent Living. We hope many will join us in our cause to allow disabled people to live ordinary lives.

**Jamie Bolling, Executive Director, European Network on Independent Living - ENIL**



## Introduction

This year, for the 4th consecutive time, around 50 Centers for Independent Living, and other organizations and over 15 individuals of the Independent Living Movement in more than 30 countries around and beyond Europe celebrated 5th of May as the European Independent Living Day.

Under the umbrella theme ***“Things I Can Do Thanks to Independent Living”***, video clips, conferences, panel discussions, photography contests, film screenings, as well as demonstrations and performances made the 4th European Independent Living Day a great success. The hashtag [#ILDay17](#) was used to share the organized activities, as well as photos and videos made within the campaign event, to increase its visibility on social media channels and contribute to raising awareness about the Independent Living movement and philosophy. In total, on 5 May and the following week - up to 12 May, posts related to 5th of May activities on the ENIL [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages reached respectively 26,771 and 19,000 views. Many events were also covered by local TV and radio stations.



ENIL marked the day by publishing a [press release](#), as well as the first in a series of articles on the effect of cuts on Independent Living. [The article](#), focusing on Sweden, calls on the European institutions to do more to prevent Member States from implementing regressive measures, in violation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The article was written by ENIL in cooperation with the Assistance Koll, and is also signed by Thomas Hammarberg, Hon. Chair, Mental Disability Advocacy Center; Former Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights, and Pelle K lhed, Vice President Handikappf rbunden, the Swedish Disability Federation. ENIL [staff](#), including Advocacy Officer [Frank Sioen](#), at the Secretariat in Brussels

also celebrated the European Independent Living Day with their colleagues at the [Mundo-J](#) office building.

In this report, ENIL shares with you the exciting activities and events that took place in Europe and beyond its borders, as well as on social media.

## Albania

“[Together](#)” Foundation in collaboration with EU Policy Hub for the first time in Albania organized a roundtable in the framework of the European Independent Living Day. As explained in the opening speech by Mr. Celik Rruplli of EU Policy Hub, the theme of the campaign was slightly modified to “*Things I would be able to do thanks to Independent Living*”, as there is no implementation of Independent Living legal provisions in Albania. The three videos prepared for the day and shared on social media were then introduced, including of ENIL Youth Network members [Suela Lala](#) and [Anisa Proda](#), and of a 17 year old young person [Gersi Troka](#) from Albania.

The panel included **Ms Suela Lala** - “Together” Foundation, **Ms Ilda Bozo** –Director of Social Inclusion Policies/Ministry of Social Welfare and Youth, **Ms Brunilda Paskali** - Deputy Mayor of Tirana, and **Mr Alessandro Angius** – EU Delegation in Albania.



Around 50-60 people participated in the discussion, representing disability organizations, youth



organizations and local and central government. Young people were quite engaged in the discussion, with half the participants being below 35 years of age. The roundtable was covered by two online platforms: Hermes News as Citizen's Channel. Several DPOs also shared the presented videos on Facebook and other social media platforms.

The success of the campaign event was further demonstrated by its sustainability, as it stirred motivation among various stakeholders to further engage for the promotion of disability rights and Independent Living in Albania. Specifically:

- several disability organizations expressed their willingness to be part of the May 5 in the coming year(s), which will enable organizing a larger activity and ensure more greater outreach and visibility of the can be achieved
- the municipality of Tirana agreed for cooperation with DPOs to improve accessibility for disabled persons.
- donor organizations and the EU delegation expressed their willingness to support not only for the follow-up work with the municipality but also for further activities.

## **Armenia**

Three organization from Armenia participated in the European Independent Living Day this year with various contributions.

["Disability Info" Information NGO](#) raised awareness about the Independent Living campaign by translating into Armenian and publishing the ENIL [press release](#) on the occasion on their website and [Facebook page](#). The latter reached 2000 people.

[Skarp NGO](#) organized a training-discussion on Independent Living, where participants shared what they would need in order to live full independent lives. This discussion was then summed into a short video clip and published on the [Skarp YouTube](#) channel and disseminated through the [Facebook page](#) of the organization. ENIL supported the initiative of Skarp NGO by raising awareness about the organized activities through its social media platforms.

[Unison NGO](#) marked the European Independent Living Day through wide-reaching awareness raising activities, mainly through national TV outlets. On 5 May, the Executive Director of the organization, Mr Armen Alaverdyan gave a skype interview to one of the national TV stations in Armenia, ArmNews TV, speaking about the main challenges disabled people face in Armenia, which aired prime-time. Mr Alaverdyan also participated in a session of National Disability Commission, which was covered by leading media outlets including Armenia TV, the channel which has the highest rating in Armenia. Meanwhile Ms Marianna Chalikyan, PR Manager of Unison, participated in a live morning TV show on Shant TV, one of the most viewed Armenian TV channels.



## Austria

Within the Independent Living Day campaign, the Austrian Network for Self-Advocacy, [Wibs Tirol](#), published a demand-statement called "[Why we demand Independent Self-Advocacy](#)" (German). [Wibs Tirol](#) self-advocates also presented their demands for Independent Living through a short [video clip](#) (German and English).

## Azerbaijan



This year Azerbaijan marked the European Independent Living Day with a cultural event.

[The Performance Art Theatre in Baku](#) successfully staged "[A Midsummer Night's Dream](#)" by William Shakespeare with disabled and non-disabled actors, and sign language interpretation during the performance, on the occasion of the celebration. The full house premier was covered by several online and offline [media outlets](#) and is followed up with several ongoing performances.





## Belarus

On 25 May with the support of UNICEF and the Institute for Inclusive Education, the [Office for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities](#) in Belarus has planned a [seminar](#) on overcoming discrimination in basic education in Minsk.

## Belgium

Among individuals who participated in the European Independent Living Day celebrations, ENIL's member from Belgium **Kristien Hendriks** shared what Independent Living means for him.

*Disabled Ambassadors* from [Independent Living](#) gathered in the Heroes Square of the Dendermonde municipality in the Flemish province of East Flanders in the Denderstreek to chat with passers-by about their [needs and aspirations for ordinary life](#) and the societal challenges they face for Independent Living. The action

was covered by a local newspaper and online magazine [Invlaanderen.be](#), as well as shared on [Facebook](#) reaching more than 2500 viewers on social media.



### - **5<sup>th</sup> May, the European Independent Living Day**

#### Things I Can Do Thanks to Independent Living

- **STAND UP WHEN I WANT**
- **Go to work**
- **Drive my car by myself**
- **Decide when I go to eat, what I want to eat**
- **Go to sleep when I decide to 😊**
- **Go out with friends**
- **Be INDEPENDENT**
- **Doing is what makes a dream come true**

Kristien Belgium

**Noa**, an assistant dog from **Wallonia** was excited to be included in the celebrations of the 4th European Independent Living Day as well! Her [mission](#) on the day was to raise awareness about the challenges disabled people in Wallonia face and attract people's attention to the 'catastrophic' situation they are in.



Heureusement que mon maître bénéficie d'un Budget d'Assistance Personnelle !



## Bosnia and Herzegovina

As many from the ENIL Youth Network, **Stela Kapidzic** from Bosnia and Herzegovina, shared her [video](#) for the 4th European Independent Living Day.

## Bulgaria

The [Centre for Independent Living in Sofia](#) is organized a creative event on 5 May. The members of the organization collected old wheelchairs, decorated them and put messages related to the lack of real political changes since Bulgaria ratified the UNCRPD. The powerful message demonstrated through artistic symbolism of butterfly wings and chains expressed the contrast between the Independent Living spirit of disabled people despite lack of meaningful action on behalf of state authorities. As visible from the [photos](#) taken during the event, the message was eye-catching and impressive.



## Croatia

Association of Disabled Persons of Karlovac County ([UOSIKAŽU](#)) took part in the 4th European Independent Living Day with a photo [slideshow](#) and awareness-raising message on Independent Living on their [social media](#) platforms. The celebration of 5 May is highlighted with the initiation of the “Hope for Better Life of Persons with Disabilities” Project, which was approved in April 2017. The aim of the six-year Project is the Development of Personal Assistance Services to enable the Independent Living of Disabled Persons in the County of Karlovac.



## Cyprus

The Cyprus Paraplegics Organization released a press announcement for the Independent Living Day and in the morning of 5<sup>th</sup> of May spoke about Independent Living on one of the country's most popular radio programmes live on the Cyprus National Radio station. The organization is currently working together with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs for setting up the first Personal Assistants service for tetraplegic persons from spinal cord injury.

## France

Both [Independent Living France](#) and [association Gré à Gré](#) sent out their [greetings](#) on social media on 5 May, and [association Gré à Gré](#) also released the [French version](#) of the [ENIL Myth Buster on Independent Living](#) on 5th May, making it available in 14 languages.

## Georgia

This year the European Independent Living Day was celebrated very actively in Georgia, with a number of events, online campaigns and wide media coverage. The [Coalition For Independent Living](#) in Tbilisi shared the ENIL press release on 5 May. It also organized an [event](#) dedicated to Independent Living in the yard of Tbilisi State University, reaching out to almost 150 disabled people, student, professors and other representatives of the University. The Coalition highlighted the importance of destroying the myths and stereotypes that impede Independent Living of disabled people, especially against the backdrop of visa liberalization and further integration of Georgia with the European Union. A [flash-mob](#) was organized during the event, with young people coming together to form the acronym for European Network on Independent Living - ENIL. In the evening of 5 May the [film](#), starring late Independent Living Hero Donal Toolan "Inside I am Dancing" was screened in the Mziuri Cafe. It was followed by a [discussion](#) on Independent Living, led by the Chairperson of the Coalition for Independent Living, Giorgi Dzneladze and screenwriter David Gabunia. The social media outreach of the noted events was over 2000 persons.





Mr George Dzneladze, together with lawyer, Ms Tamuna Gabisonia were guested in a morning [broadcast](#) on the European Independent Living Day at the Georgian National Broadcaster Channel 1. The popular regional broadcaster Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty also aired a [Radio broadcast](#) on Independent Living on 5 May.

As part of the online campaign, [two videos](#) depicting stories of Independent Living disabled persons (in Georgian) were shared on social media channels.

## Germany

This year [among many DPOs](#) in Germany, the [Interessenvertretung Selbstbestimmt Leben in Deutschland - ISL e.V.](#) celebrated the 25th anniversary of the European Protest Day for Equal Rights of Disabled People. On the occasion, throughout the country around 630 events took place, with the culmination of the celebrations being the [5 May demonstration](#) in Berlin, which was attended by around 2000 people. Successfully embracing the cross-disability approach, the disability rights movement took on the streets of the German capital and other cities to celebrate their achievements over the past 25 year, with further motivation to take upon the existing challenges that disabled people face in Germany to this day. By rough estimates around 30000 people participated in demonstrations to mark the day nationwide. With its wide scope the campaign reached not only disabled people, but also policy-makers and state representatives, and of course, the general public. The extensive media coverage of the campaign, such as the broadcast of the [protest in Berlin](#) by Germany's main news show, *Tagesschau*, further boosted its reach.

## Greece



Members, friends and volunteers of “**Drama Association**” in the Greek city of Dráma, and a group of young people from a neighboring municipality gathered in the city centre, to talk to people about what they think Independent Living is and how important it is for disabled people. Around 100 disabled people, young and older people, as well as local authorities participated and the event received coverage by local and regional media.

During the week leading to the 4th European Independent Living Day, ENIL members and great supporters of [Independent Living Organization of Greece - i-living](#) published a [video call](#) asking disabled people to share who their Personal Assistants are, thus highlighting the importance of Personal Assistance for Independent Living. For a few days, the organization also shared one of their popular



[videos](#) on Independent Living in several central metro stations in Athens. Currently, the clip has over 6000 views on the [organization YouTube channel](#). They also disseminated up to 2500 [leaflets](#) on Independent Living and Personal Assistance in Athens.

In addition, an awareness-raising campaign [event](#) was organized at Kapnikarea in Athens on 5 May, to demonstrate and share the value and usefulness of Personal Assistants in the lives of disabled people.

One of the creative ideas during the campaign launched by I-Living Greece, was to make digitale [frames of Facebook profile pictures with the Independent Living theme](#). ENIL staff was among those who had the pleasure to take part in this initiative.



## Hungary

Two organizations from Hungary took part in this year's celebration of the European Independent Living Day.

This year [ÉFOÉSZ](#) (The Hungarian Association for Persons with Intellectual Disability) participated in the ENIL Independent Living Day campaign for the second time. It created an easy-to-read format of ENIL's call to submit [videos](#) on Independent Living, encouraging its members to express what it means for them personally to live independently on daily basis. The call generated great interest, as more than 60 [videos](#) were submitted by self-advocates.



The main event took place on 5 May, where 80 self-advocates, family members and supporters came together from all around Hungary to watch eight of the best campaign [videos](#) and to discuss with the creators about what independent living means, and why it is important to them during the

[Video Premiere and Self-advocate Conference](#) in Budapest.

The 4th European Independent Living Day marked an important step towards the membership of the Hungarian organization [Mozgáskorlátozottak Egyesületeinek Országos Szövetsége - MEOSZ](#) in European Network on Independent Living - ENIL, as MEOSZ amended its constitution to incorporate the



Independent Living definition by ENIL. The organization also launched a strong position paper, built on the lived experiences of persons with physical disabilities, the UNCRPD, and the #ENIL Independent Living definition, during a conference on 5 May in Hajdúszoboszló, Hungary. The target groups of the position paper were mainly policy and decision-makers and people working in the social and healthcare sector.

## Iraq

ENIL is excited to further expand the geography of its campaign and to receive a [video](#) from one of our members in Iraq, Mohsen Ahmid, where he expresses the conviction that Independent Living starts with independent thinking.

## Ireland

[Donegal Centre for Independent Living](#) shares their [video](#) expressing what Independent Living means to disabled people in Donegal, Ireland.

## Italy

[Agenzia Vita Indipendente Onlus](#) in Rome in cooperation with local partners celebrated the 4th European Independent Living day with exciting cultural events, the highlight of which was the premiere of the theatrical performance "[I Just Want to Change the World](#)" about one of the greatest female figures of the Italian disability rights movement, Gabriella Bertini (1940-2015).<sup>1</sup> After the successful premier the performance started touring in Italy to help informing people about the project "**Casa Gabriella**" a **social co-housing** connected with the Spinal Unit of Florence, dedicated to people with disabilities who due to aging they need health care, not necessarily in hospitalization, but available through the facility's services and specialist spinal unit staff.



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<sup>1</sup> As a disabled woman, Gabriella Bertini devoted her force, passion and life to the recognition of the rights and dignity of disabled people with disabilities. She was the first woman in Italy in the sixties to drive an adapted car. In the nineties she began to spread the philosophy of Independent Living and with some friends she participated to the first Assembly to constitute ENIL Italia. Furthermore her struggle has been fundamental to establish in Italy the first Spinal Cord injury Center. She was also one of the first disabled woman to adopt a child.



Included among the initiatives was also the exhibition "*Registered, persecuted, annihilated. The Sick and the disabled under National Socialism*" with the section "*Sick, mental hospitals and psychiatrists in Italy: from the Fascist period to World War II*" brought from Germany with the efforts of the Italian Society of Psychiatry and the European Network for psychodynamic psychiatry (Netforpp Europe).

The events were organized with the consideration of promoting a positive view of disabled people, their important role in the society, and eagerness to choose their own future, as well as more to prevent specific solutions that often effectively relegate disabled people in segregating situations.

## **Lithuania**

[Lithuanian Disability Forum](#) took part in the 4th celebration of the European Independent Living Day with 2 major events: the International Conference "Personal Assistant - necessary factor for independent Living" and the Joint (Lithuanian, Latvian and Swedish) photography exhibition with the theme of "AccessAbility". Both events aimed to inform the public about the challenges disabled people face, trying to live ordinary lives, due to lack of services and accessible information and environment, hence often forced into isolation and segregating settings.

The "Personal assistant - necessary factor for independent living" international conference, attended by 80 people, was organized in cooperation with the Office of the President of the Republic of Lithuania. Best practices of implementation of Personal Assistance in other European countries was presented to promote the adoption of the practice in Lithuania. The Conference received [newspaper coverage](#).

With a cross-disability approach travelling around the world, the "AccessAbility" exhibition was organized for the second time in Lithuania, with an expanded geography. An article was published about



the exhibition by the [newspaper 15 Min.](#)

The overall Independent Living campaign received nationwide coverage, as the Lithuanian Disability Forum presented the European Independent Living Day on the morning show [“Labas rytas, Lietuva”](#) (Good morning Lithuania) of the national TV channel of Lithuania, LRT. The campaign events also reached their audience through social media channels, in total with more than 2000 views on the Lithuanian Disability Forum Facebook page.

## Luxembourg

Several organizations in Luxembourg with the cooperation of the city of Luxembourg planned a number of awareness-raising events on disability and Independent Living for the European Independent Living Day. One of them was a [conference](#) on inclusion and Independent Living of persons with physical and psycho-social disabilities with Prof. Dr. Germain Weber (Dean of the Faculty of Psychology in Vienna) held on May 8, 2017 at 19.00 at the Center Sportif Atert in Bertrange.



## Moldova

Three individuals from Moldova, [Victoria Mudrea](#), [Tatiana Marza](#) and [Vlad Andreev](#), shared their videos to celebrate the 4th European Independent Living Day.

## Montenegro

[Association of Youth with Disabilities of Montenegro - AYDM](#) marked 5 May with greatly successful campaign action. With the help of student and youth volunteers, AYDM organized high-level [public event](#) on the Independence Square of the capital Podgorica with up to 150 participants, including disabled



people, representatives from the Government, Parliament, and the Ombudsman's office of Montenegro.



Minister of European Affairs Aleksandar Andrija Pejović, Head of EU Delegation to Montenegro Aivo Orav, and Executive Director of AYDM, Marina Vujačić, opened the [event](#). The Minister expressed strong political will for disability rights reforms in the country within the framework of negotiation for EU integration. Head of EU Delegation to Montenegro, Aivo Orav, highlighted the importance of legislative basis for securing the rights and full inclusion of more than 50 million disabled citizens across Europe. They also encouraged Montenegro to speed up efforts in securing equal access and inclusion rights of disabled people in the country and stressed the vitality of participation of disabled people in decision-making processes. Finally, Executive director of AYDM, Marina Vujačić, took the platform to remind the importance of self-acceptance and self-determination of disabled people and the availability of rigid support structures





for the realization of Independent Living.

The participants then had the opportunity to watch “[Moving Boundaries](#)” documentary film about disabled people who despite societal challenges strive and succeed to live full and independent lives. Excerpts from the book “No Pity” by Jo Shapiro were also read, and event was concluded with the social game “Limitation Game”, which allowed participants to experience to some degree the hurdles disabled people encounter.

On the occasion of the 4th European Independent Living Day, AYDM also published the 4th edition of the [DisabilityINFO](#) magazine, including an [interview](#) article on of ENIL founders and Independent Living Hero Adolf Ratzka.

AYDM also succeeded reaching close to 50000 persons with their campaign messages and events on social media.

## Norway

One of ENIL’s most active northern member and partner organization, [ULOBA](#)’s youth project, marked the European Independent Living day by challenging politicians and public administrators in a panel discussion on young disabled people’s access to work at the Oslo Literature House on 5 May 2017. Hilde Sofie Nilsson, one of the organization’s young peer advisors led the debate, and ULOBA’s young members participated in the panel, together with youth politicians, and representatives from public administration. The full-house highly successful event was attended by around 60 persons, and was [streamed live](#) on Facebook, reaching more than 8800 people. The facebook [photo album](#) from the day had a reach of 4332 persons. ULOBA Facebook page was also highly visited on 5 May with a reach of over 15500 people.



The debate also received significant media representation, with 3 magazine articles, 1 television and 1 national radio broadcast dedicated to the 4th European Independent Living Day celebration. ULOBA also



published an [article on access of disabled people to work](#) on their webpage.



Photo credit Uloba and Stig Emil Sandland ([stig.emil.sandland@gmail.com](mailto:stig.emil.sandland@gmail.com))

## Portugal

To celebrate the European Independent Living Day, [Centro de Vida Independente](#) in Portugal has invited disabled people to submit various forms of media on what they think is NOT Independent Living with the hashtag [#NãoeVidaIndependente](#) (This is NOT Independent Living), which were published on the organization's [Facebook](#) platform around 5 May. An ongoing photography contest on the topic until July is also part of this year's activities for the European Independent Living Day in Portugal.

## Romania

The [CevaDeSpus](#), a self-advocating organization in Romania celebrated the 4th European Independent Living Day with a [video](#) by their members Simona, Dana, Elisabeta and Luiza, expressing what Independent Living means to them.



Another local organization, [Adapto Youth](#), which brings together young people from diverse backgrounds to promote equality among them also took part in the 4th European Independent Living Day. On 5 May, the Adapto Association organized the [“Independent Living” presentation](#), where the participants discussed what Independent Living does and does not mean to them, what are the international and European trends in the Independent Living movement, as well as the how Independent Living philosophy can be translated into reality.





Additional events on the occasion of the day, such as an open-air debate in front of the Palace of the Parliament on how it is like to live independently in Romania and why it is important for disabled people to live independently, took place. It was live streamed by the [Calea Europeană](#) news portal, which is followed by 54000 viewers. Ministry of Labour and Social Justice published a [press release](#) on the occasion of 5 May in Romania.

## San Marino

The local disability rights advocacy organization [Attiva-Mente](#) organized a [panel discussion](#) on [Independent Living](#) for people with severe disabilities in cooperation with the Office of the Secretary of State for Health and Social Security Secretary of State for Health and Social Security. More than a hundred disabled people, government authorities, public officers, family members of disabled people and general public took part to discuss the importance of Independent Living and Personal Assistance in San Marino. Policy-makers seemed positive and demonstrated interest in the realization of Personal Assistance, which can be very promising for making significant and realistic changes in the lives of disabled people. The event received coverage by [San Marino RTV channel](#).



## Serbia



Several local Centres for Independent Living took part in the 4th European Independent Living Day Campaign, including in Belgrade, Kragujevac, Nis, Leskovac, Tribune, Sombor, Jagodina, Smederevo, Cacak, and Beograd with actions promoting Personal Assistance. Most events were meetings with disabled people, local officials, such as city mayors, and general public, attended from 15 to 150 persons depending on the event location and format, and were covered either by local and national news channels. Social media outreach was also significant, at some instances



reaching 2000 persons online. One of the actions taken, by [CIL Jagonina](#) was a street performance, with the support of students from the Teachers' College, to promote Personal Assistance Service in Jagodina. Within the framework of the campaign events users and their personal assistants from Belgrade gathered in a small [round-table discussion](#) about their experiences with Personal Assistance Services in relation to Independent Living.

## Slovakia

The members and volunteers of [Domov sociálnych služieb "Slatinka"](#), which provides Social Services for People with Mental Disabilities in Slovakia prepared a short video with this year's slogan "Things I Can do Thanks this Independent Living".

## Slovenia

The Slovenian organization [YHD - Društvo za teorijo in kulturo hendikepa](#) celebrated the 4th European Day of Independent Living at one of the main events in Ljubljana, the "Odprta kuhna", an [event](#) organized every Friday where food from all around the world is served to passers-by on stalls. The event was well visited in spite of the initial bad weather and the members of YHD took advantage of the availability of a big crowd to speak to people and spread the message on Independent Living. Prime Minister Miro Cerar, with his delegation, was among the visitors of "Odprta kuhna" and the Independent Living movement members to the chance to make their voices heard to him and call for the urgent implementation of the Personal Assistance Act in Slovenia. The further reach of the Independent Living message was secured by a short report on the [daily news programme](#) of the Slovenian Public TV station and by the [Za-misli portal](#).



A journalist from the public radio of Slovenia took a stroll around the market with the instruction of YHD members to have a glimpse into the accessibility challenges faced by wheelchair users, and will soon publish a report on her experience. A short statement to the Slovenian Press Agency was also provided by YHD. The overall social media reach of the campaign through the [YHD Facebook page](#) and [three Facebook group](#) was approximately 1000 people.



## Sweden

As has been the case through many years of ENIL's existence and work, another Northern European country, Sweden, has been very active within the 4th European Independent Living Day campaign as well.

The [Independent Living Institute](#) marked the 4th European Independent Living Day with a joint [statement-article](#) on the concerns of the Independent Living Movement regarding the threat to Personal Assistance in Europe. As noted in the beginning of this report, the [article](#) is the first of the series on the issue and focuses on Sweden. The webportal <http://assistanskoll.se/> published a [press release](#) on 5 May, highlighting the events and actions taken within the Independent Living Day campaign in Sweden.

The [Nordic Network on Disability Research](#) held its [14th Research Conference](#) in Örebro from 3 to 5 May, where ENIL Executive Director Jamie Bolling presented the article on the "[Right to Personal Assistance and its Portability in the European Union](#)", published in the French Journal Vie Sociale.

[STIL](#)- The Founders of the Independent Living in Sweden held a [conference](#) at Kulturhuset in Stockholm presenting the latest research on Personal Assistance and the various interpretations that characterize the debate. The [seminar](#) was titled: Freedom, cheating and facts. A recent report from Lund University on Personal Assistance was among the presented papers.

## Turkey

There was a lot happening in Turkey for this year's European Independent Living Day as well. Many of the activities could be followed on the [Facebook event page](#) especially created for this year's celebration of 5 May. Among numerous posts, the [press release](#) on the occasion of Independent Living Day was published on the page. Many disabled people, among those [Mediha Bozkır Yıldız](#), [Gülseren Koçer](#), as well as Representative of Turkey at the World Cerebral Palsy Day Committee [Umut Kosan](#) (in Turkish) shared their thoughts and experiences related to Independent Living. Local discussions about Independent Living were also held, one being on how to bring up support services for people with psychosocial disabilities. As a result a working group was established to focus on personally-assisted decision-making and person-centered planning and to plan paraprofessional trainings in mental health services and other volunteer activities.





Young members and volunteers of [Spina Bifida Association of Turkey](#) joined the ENIL Independent Living Day campaign with a [charity bazaar](#) where about 100 persons attended. The event photos were published on the organization's [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) pages and reached up to 2000 people.

A campaign video was also published by the organization, in which a young member of SBAT poses the question "[Are you Independent?](#)" (in Turkish with English subtitles).

## **United Kingdom**

Disability rights organizations and Centres of Independent Living, as well as individuals in the UK have stayed loyal to their tradition of actively participating in the European Independent Living Day celebrations.

ENIL youth member Will Case, published a [video pledge](#) to congratulate everyone on 5th of May. Similarly, the CEO of [DMD Pathfinders](#), John Hastie shared his [thoughts](#) why Independent Living is important for him.

The [Services for Independent Living](#) in Hereford reshared their [videos](#) about Services for Independent Living in England and Wales, produced in collaboration with The Rural Media Company. [Lumos](#) also shared a video on the occasion, but this time an [animation](#) created by their supported self-advocates in Czech Republic.

Camden Adult Social Care scrutiny committee held a meeting in London on 8 May with the title "[Stop Camden Council cuts to social care](#)".

In Northern Ireland, the [Centre for Independent Living NI](#) launched their Strategic Plan 2016 to 2019: Working Together to Enhance Independence.

Founder of [Trip-Ability](#), Michael Holden MBE from Belfast featured two videos highlighting importance of accessibility for his Independent Living. In the [first video](#) he allows the viewers to have a glimpse of his fully accessible two-story home as on a tour of his two-storey fully accessible home, while in the second he demonstrates [how driving a car contributes to his Independent Living](#).

**International organizations** such as the [International Federation for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus \(IF\)](#) and [Autism Europe](#), as well as the [Independent Living Newsletter](#) supported the Independent Living Day mission with articles and social media posts.



## **Reference Links**

#ILDay17 search results for on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=%23ILDay17>

#ILDay17 search results for on Twitter

<https://twitter.com/search?q=%23ILDay17&src=typd>

ENIL Advocacy Officer, Frank Sioen and Director of European Disability Forum, Catherine Naughton celebrating European Independent Living Day

<https://www.facebook.com/ENILsecretaria/posts/994906503973879>

ENIL Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/ENILsecretaria/>

ENIL Myth Buster on Independent Living

<http://enil.eu/news/the-enil-myth-buster-now-available-in-6-languages/>

ENIL Press release: *Over 20 Countries Celebrate 4th European Independent Living Day*

<http://enil.eu/best-practices/over-20-countries-celebrate-4th-european-independent-living-day/>

ENIL team in Brussels celebrating European Independent Living Day

<https://www.facebook.com/ENILsecretaria/photos/a.359162534214949.1073741835.160586904072514/994937963970733/?type=3&theater>

ENIL team in Brussels celebrating European Independent Living Day with colleagues at Mundo-J

<https://www.facebook.com/ENILsecretaria/photos/a.160591554072049.33634.160586904072514/996655183799011/?type=3&theater>

ENIL Twitter page

[https://twitter.com/ENIL\\_EU](https://twitter.com/ENIL_EU)

Independent Living: definition of ENIL

<http://enil.eu/independent-living/definitions/>

*Independent Living under Threat in Europe: Sweden*

<http://enil.eu/news/independent-living-under-threat-in-europe-sweden/>



## **Participating countries**

### **Albania**

“Together” Foundation

<https://www.facebook.com/sebashkufoundation/?fref=mentions>

Photos from the Roundtable - “Together” Foundation

<https://www.facebook.com/sebashkufoundation/posts/1772653516378689>

ENIL Youth Network member from Albania [Suela Lala](#)'s video for the 4th European Independent Living Day

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8tyseplCUWM&feature=youtu.be>

ENIL Youth Network member from Albania [Anisa Proda](#)'s video for the 4th European Independent Living Day

<https://youtu.be/heOGRWzkorQ>

Gersi from Albania greeting everyone on the occasion of the 4th European Independent Living Day

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bcn6f7ORAcA&feature=youtu.be>

### **Armenia**

“Disability Info” Information NGO

<http://disabilityinfo.am/>

“Disability Info” Information NGO Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/Disabilityinfo.am/posts/873796739442778>

ENIL Press release: *Over 20 Countries Celebrate 4th European Independent Living Day (in Armenian)*

<http://disabilityinfo.am/15936/>

Skarp NGO

<http://www.skarp.am/>

Skarp NGO Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/skarpngo/posts/1705090232841464>

Skarp NGO video on Independent Living: *“All We Need for Independent Living Is...”*



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tDbC\\_5FLV6U&t=2s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tDbC_5FLV6U&t=2s)

Unison NGO

<http://www.unison.am/>

## **Austria**

Austrian Network for Self-Advocacy

<http://www.wibs-tirol.at/>

Austrian Network for Self-Advocacy Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/projektwibs/>

Demand-statement by the Austrian Network for Self-Advocacy: *"Why we demand Independent Self-Advocacy"* (in German)

[http://www.wibs-tirol.at/userfiles/dateien/zumHerunterladen/Eine%20Stellungnahme%20vom%20Netzwerk%20Selbstvertretung%20%C3%96sterreich%20\\_FERTIG.pdf](http://www.wibs-tirol.at/userfiles/dateien/zumHerunterladen/Eine%20Stellungnahme%20vom%20Netzwerk%20Selbstvertretung%20%C3%96sterreich%20_FERTIG.pdf)

Video Clip by Austrian Network for Self-Advocacy (In German and English)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QNm8t1fLofU&feature=youtu.be>

## **Azerbaijan**

The Performance Art Theatre in Baku

<https://www.facebook.com/esateatr/?fref=mentions>

Media coverage of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" by the Performance Art Theatre in Baku

[https://axsam.az/?name=xeber&news\\_id=71445](https://axsam.az/?name=xeber&news_id=71445)

<http://www.azpress.az/index.php?lang=az&sectionid=news&id=69355>

<https://www.facebook.com/esateatr/videos/1321758104576020/>

<http://inclusivenews.org/inkluziv-xeber/sosial/180-yuxumun-premyerasinda-anslaq-fotolar.html>

<http://www.kulis.az/news/17910>

Performance photos of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" by the Performance Art Theatre in Baku

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.1312348482183649.1073741833.137942066290969&type=3>

## **Belarus**

Office for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities



<http://www.disright.org/ru>

Office for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/%D0%9E%D1%84%D0%B8%D1%81-%D0%BF%D0%BE-%D0%BF%D1%80%D0%B0%D0%B2%D0%B0%D0%BC-%D0%BB%D1%8E%D0%B4%D0%B5%D0%B9-%D1%81-%D0%B8%D0%BD%D0%B2%D0%B0%D0%BB%D0%B8%D0%B4%D0%BD%D0%BE%D1%81%D1%82%D1%8C%D1%8E-194847970582678/>

Seminar on overcoming discrimination in basic education organized by the Office for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

<http://www.disright.org/ru/accessibility-week-2017>

## **Belgium**

ENIL member from Belgium Kristien Hendriks shared what Independent Living means for him

<https://www.facebook.com/ENILsecretaria/photos/a.359162534214949.1073741835.160586904072514/994797087318154/?type=3&theater>

## **Belgium (Flanders)**

Independent Living organization

<https://www.onafhankelijkleven.be/>

Independent Living organization: article on the 5 May event (in Dutch)

<https://www.onafhankelijkleven.be/blog/detail/mensen-met-beperking-palmen-winkelstraat-in>

Independent Living organization Facebook page photos from the 5 May event

[https://www.facebook.com/pg/OnafhankelijkL/photos/?tab=album&album\\_id=1026557917476141](https://www.facebook.com/pg/OnafhankelijkL/photos/?tab=album&album_id=1026557917476141)

Invlaanderen.be online magazine: article on the 5 May event (in Dutch)

[http://www.invlaanderen.be/\(41500\)/mensen-met-een-beperking-palmen-winkelstraat-dendermonde-in-op-europese-onafhankelijk-leven-dag](http://www.invlaanderen.be/(41500)/mensen-met-een-beperking-palmen-winkelstraat-dendermonde-in-op-europese-onafhankelijk-leven-dag)

## **Belgium (Wallonia)**

Photos slideshow by Noa, assistant dog from Wallonia on the occasion of the 4th European Independent Living Day

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tBrKYEX0Rr0&feature=share>





## **Bosnia and Herzegovina**

ENIL Youth Network member Stela Kapidzic's video for the 4th European Independent Living Day  
[http://slide.ly/view/10d3d4dd69357c4259a734bc8b5b8027?utm\\_source=Gp\\_ORG\\_Share](http://slide.ly/view/10d3d4dd69357c4259a734bc8b5b8027?utm_source=Gp_ORG_Share)

## **Bulgaria**

Centre for Independent Living in Sofia  
<http://www.cil.bg/en/>

Photos from the 5 May event by the Centre for Independent Living in Sofia  
<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/csshl1405y4a79m/AAB77OLg-glLn8PrH222aAsEa?dl=0>  
<https://www.facebook.com/cilbg/posts/1296127600442774>

## **Croatia**

Association of Disabled Persons of Karlovac County (UOSIKAŽU)  
<http://www.uosikazu.hr/>

Association of Disabled Persons of Karlovac County (UOSIKAŽU)  
<https://www.facebook.com/Udruga-osoba-s-invaliditetom-Karlova%C4%8Dke-%C5%BEupanije-167414193341434/>

Photo slideshow and awareness-raising message on Independent Living by the Association of Disabled Persons of Karlovac County (UOSIKAŽU)  
<https://www.facebook.com/167414193341434/videos/1337579276324914/>

## **France**

Independent Living France  
<https://www.facebook.com/IndependentLivingFrance/?fref=mentions>

Association Gré à Gré  
<http://www.greagre.asso.fr/>

French version of the ENIL Myth Buster on Independent Living on 5th May  
[http://www.greagre.asso.fr/Myths\\_Buster\\_final\\_fr.pdf](http://www.greagre.asso.fr/Myths_Buster_final_fr.pdf)

## **Georgia**



Coalition for Independent Living

<http://www.disability.ge/>

Independent Living Day event photos by Coalition for Independent Living

[https://www.facebook.com/pg/cilkdc/photos/?tab=album&album\\_id=1714734658541886](https://www.facebook.com/pg/cilkdc/photos/?tab=album&album_id=1714734658541886)

Independent Living Day event at the Tbilisi State University (in Georgian)

<https://www.facebook.com/cilkdc/videos/1714520768563275/>

Independent Living Day flash-mob by Coalition for Independent Living

<https://www.facebook.com/cilkdc/videos/1714861915195827/>

Independent Living Day film screening Facebook event page

[https://www.facebook.com/events/322209444878325/?acontext=%7B%22source%22%3A5%2C%22page\\_id\\_source%22%3A411119962236702%2C%22action\\_history%22%3A\[%7B%22surface%22%3A%22page%22%2C%22mechanism%22%3A%22main\\_list%22%2C%22extra\\_data%22%3A%22%7B%5C%22page\\_id%5C%22%3A411119962236702%2C%5C%22tour\\_id%5C%22%3Anull%7D%22%7D\]%2C%22has\\_source%22%3Atrue%7D](https://www.facebook.com/events/322209444878325/?acontext=%7B%22source%22%3A5%2C%22page_id_source%22%3A411119962236702%2C%22action_history%22%3A[%7B%22surface%22%3A%22page%22%2C%22mechanism%22%3A%22main_list%22%2C%22extra_data%22%3A%22%7B%5C%22page_id%5C%22%3A411119962236702%2C%5C%22tour_id%5C%22%3Anull%7D%22%7D]%2C%22has_source%22%3Atrue%7D)

Independent Living Day film screening discussion video (in Georgian)

<https://www.facebook.com/cilkdc/videos/1714988308516521/>

Georgian National Broadcaster Channel 1 interview on Independent Living Day (in Georgian)

<http://1tv.ge/ge/videos/view/163061/555.html>

Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty broadcast on Independent Living (in Georgian)

<https://www.radiotavisupleba.ge/a/damoukideblad-cxovrebis-dge/28469644.html>

Independent Living story of Dato Alikhanashvili (in Georgian)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bs2kdJ35wdA&feature=share>

Independent Living story of Eka Umekashvili (in Georgian)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UEdE0W0NA5o&feature=share>

## Germany

Interessenvertretung Selbstbestimmt Leben in Deutschland - ISL e.V.

[http://isl-ev.de/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=category&id=118&Itemid=409](http://isl-ev.de/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&id=118&Itemid=409)



European Protest Day for Equal Rights of Disabled People in Berlin

[http://isl-ev.de/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=90&Itemid=410](http://isl-ev.de/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=90&Itemid=410)

Photos from the European Protest Day for Equal Rights of Disabled People in Berlin

<http://www.protesttag-behinderte.de/galerie/>

German DPOs that supported the European Protest Day for Equal Right of Disabled People

<http://www.protesttag-behinderte.de/unterstuetzer/>

## **Greece**

Independent Living Organization of Greece - i-living

<https://www.facebook.com/gr.iliving/?fref=mentions>

Independent Living and Personal Assistance awareness-raising campaign event organized by I-Living Greece

[https://www.facebook.com/events/458842634450544/?acontext=%7B%22ref%22%3A%223%22%2C%22ref\\_newsfeed\\_story\\_type%22%3A%22regular%22%2C%22action\\_history%22%3A%22null%22%7D](https://www.facebook.com/events/458842634450544/?acontext=%7B%22ref%22%3A%223%22%2C%22ref_newsfeed_story_type%22%3A%22regular%22%2C%22action_history%22%3A%22null%22%7D)

Independent Living theme Facebook profile picture frames by I-Living Greece

<https://www.facebook.com/gr.iliving/photos/a.353026724895690.1073741829.350388655159497/755356984662660/?type=3&theater>

Leaflets on Independent Living and Personal Assistance by I-Living Greece

[https://www.facebook.com/ENILsecretaria/photos/basw.AbozD5PfDe2x5v5YvT4wiW02w4tY-TuQwl\\_xteHYFmheuUUty3GAbi6norZ7F2vo1zFdjUKT\\_keQz2MBEKr8w1a9xJPf0K2z04iRS9FIwfcMqr7Q287pVuHV5tN3jV0LDoKC3GrbF3PttDhXal5YVf8K.994891073975422.986320208165842.10211227869786585.10155305720537612.10211419907567833.10211227877706783/994891073975422/?type=1&opaqueCursor=AbpHv6o2XhED3Cljj-DV\\_VzLqAj8gYduHOTBuhGF0-dEVoYcoK-QyAk1Jao3UWUlf85JpP1onzZ2XtlH0\\_th2Hy8ppKR0QoE-fo8UUKE8BHAIduFW3lpTitxo2JekKQq9BINldXgdAMF-18lbEU-ijyZ492B4FvkRfED73J60ricC1zZH9Wfmy3Tlo72sgmO12VDZuy66HeYgWo2AINoxKy9NCx10oKYsOH0YwnAXX0AP2acM1HwtrdAywrFtfVHL9eEocdVu82d6mp0s2HgvNIJ4\\_zITsZicAMSS\\_kNnANbBsY0orX9FE0HI7rHyodAKyhPZ28Nng4EvZEXupevSe4tIe2ATG2RqNyRA3EQe1TSrne8Fi79fP0SOLIHsNNWzEdREE2B6tZPuEuxJLBGJ3-gmM7Lk4TLrOwI7Dw3QrduqYyi0a3xkjBU\\_MN9EY7244Lc24pKR5QzVm8vSxWXi96pOsiJlcvto-xJhxTdfRh8Llk66mDB5of2v6sUOGfvLqg&theater](https://www.facebook.com/ENILsecretaria/photos/basw.AbozD5PfDe2x5v5YvT4wiW02w4tY-TuQwl_xteHYFmheuUUty3GAbi6norZ7F2vo1zFdjUKT_keQz2MBEKr8w1a9xJPf0K2z04iRS9FIwfcMqr7Q287pVuHV5tN3jV0LDoKC3GrbF3PttDhXal5YVf8K.994891073975422.986320208165842.10211227869786585.10155305720537612.10211419907567833.10211227877706783/994891073975422/?type=1&opaqueCursor=AbpHv6o2XhED3Cljj-DV_VzLqAj8gYduHOTBuhGF0-dEVoYcoK-QyAk1Jao3UWUlf85JpP1onzZ2XtlH0_th2Hy8ppKR0QoE-fo8UUKE8BHAIduFW3lpTitxo2JekKQq9BINldXgdAMF-18lbEU-ijyZ492B4FvkRfED73J60ricC1zZH9Wfmy3Tlo72sgmO12VDZuy66HeYgWo2AINoxKy9NCx10oKYsOH0YwnAXX0AP2acM1HwtrdAywrFtfVHL9eEocdVu82d6mp0s2HgvNIJ4_zITsZicAMSS_kNnANbBsY0orX9FE0HI7rHyodAKyhPZ28Nng4EvZEXupevSe4tIe2ATG2RqNyRA3EQe1TSrne8Fi79fP0SOLIHsNNWzEdREE2B6tZPuEuxJLBGJ3-gmM7Lk4TLrOwI7Dw3QrduqYyi0a3xkjBU_MN9EY7244Lc24pKR5QzVm8vSxWXi96pOsiJlcvto-xJhxTdfRh8Llk66mDB5of2v6sUOGfvLqg&theater)

Video call to share stories about Personal Assistants by I-Living Greece

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BoxayfeWYjE&feature=youtu.be>

Video videos on Independent Living by I-Living Greece



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rPzy0M5su\\_k](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rPzy0M5su_k)

## **Hungary**

ÉFOÉSZ - The Hungarian Association for Persons with Intellectual Disability

<https://www.facebook.com/EFOESZ/>

Selected videos on Independent Living submitted by self-advocates of ÉFOÉSZ - The Hungarian Association for Persons with Intellectual Disability

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DfvyzaCKRAY>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5WgKGUppwwc>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=brjUtM-oPY4&t=3s>

Video Premiere and Self-advocate Conference in Budapest organized by ÉFOÉSZ - The Hungarian Association for Persons with Intellectual Disability

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.315460195557461.1073741834.251406348629513&type=3>

Video Premiere and Self-advocates Conference event report by Ilona Sallai

<http://egyuttvelunk.onervenyesites.hu/?p=1332>

Mozgáskorlátozottak Egyesületeinek Országos Szövetsége - MEOSZ

<https://www.facebook.com/meosz/>

## **Iraq**

Video on Independent Living submitted by ENIL member Mohsen Ahmid

<https://youtu.be/qKyG4WOqaEE>

## **Ireland**

Donegal Centre for Independent Living Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/donegalcentreforindependentliving/?fref=mentions>

Video expressing what Independent Living means to disabled people in Donegal by Donegal Centre for Independent Living

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xo05zywG7qQ&feature=share>

## **Italy**

Agenzia Vita Indipendente Onlus in Rome



<http://www.vitaindependente.org/>

Photos from the premier of "I Just Want to Change the World" performance

[https://www.facebook.com/pg/agenziavitaindependente/photos/?tab=album&album\\_id=329743587443539](https://www.facebook.com/pg/agenziavitaindependente/photos/?tab=album&album_id=329743587443539)

Promotional video of the "I Just Want to Change the World" performance

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OmC-MgLX0j4&feature=youtu.be>

## **Lithuania**

Lithuanian Disability Forum

<http://lnf.lt/>

"Article by the newspaper *15 Min* on the "AcessAbility" Joint photography exhibition

<https://www.15min.lt/media/timeline/savarankisko-gyvenimo-diena>

Article by *lyrytas.lt* on the International Conference "Personal Assistant - necessary factor for independent Living"

<http://asgaliu.lyrytas.lt/lygios-galimybes/savarankiskuma-neigaliesiems-uztikrintu-asmeninis-asistentas.htm>

Interview on the morning show "Labas rytas, Lietuva" (Good morning Lithuania) of the national TV channel of Lithuania, LRT

[http://www.lrt.lt/mediateka/irasas/1013668112/labas\\_rytas\\_lietuva#wowzaplaystart=2763000&wowzaplayduration=535000](http://www.lrt.lt/mediateka/irasas/1013668112/labas_rytas_lietuva#wowzaplaystart=2763000&wowzaplayduration=535000)

## **Luxembourg**

Photos of the conference on inclusion and Independent Living of persons with physical and psycho-social disabilities with Prof. Dr. Germain Weber (Dean of the Faculty of Psychology in Vienna) held on May 8, 2017 at 19.00 at the Center Sportif Atert in Bertrange

<https://www.facebook.com/damjanovic.gaby/posts/10212083963431939>

## **Moldova**

European Independent Living Day video from Tatiana Marza

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fhuOz2Kx69Y>

European Independent Living Day video from Tatiana Marza Victoria Mudrea

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1C9M4mNxMmk>



European Independent Living Day video from Vlad Andreev  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tGiWIOJIREU>

## **Montenegro**

Association of Youth with Disabilities of Montenegro - AYDM  
<http://umhcg.com/en/>

DisabilityInfo online magazine  
<http://www.disabilityinfo.me/iliving>

Facebook event page of the 5th of May celebration by AYDM  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/1504842549549779/>

Interview with Independent Living Hero Adolf Ratzka by DisabilityInfo  
<http://www.disabilityinfo.me/component/k2/item/1654-adolf-ratzka-osna%C5%BEite-sebe>

“Moving Boundaries” documentary film by AYDM  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XRQvR0guWCw&t=32s>

Photos from the 5th of May celebration in Podgorica by AYDM  
[https://www.facebook.com/pg/UMHCG/photos/?tab=album&album\\_id=1366322356736214](https://www.facebook.com/pg/UMHCG/photos/?tab=album&album_id=1366322356736214)

## **Norway**

ULOBA (Independent Living Norge)  
<https://www.uloba.no/>

Article on Access of disabled people to work by ULOBA (in Norwegian)  
<https://www.ntbinfo.no/pressemelding/debatt-hvordan-skal-flere-funksjonshemmede-fa-muligheten-til-a-jobbe?publisherId=89955&releaseId=15050736>

Live Stream of the Panel Discussion on young people's access to work organized by the youth project of ULOBA  
<https://www.facebook.com/ULOBA/videos/1539834166029199/>

Photo album of the Panel Discussion on young people's access to work organized by the youth project of ULOBA  
[https://www.facebook.com/pg/ULOBA/photos/?tab=album&album\\_id=1542735802405702](https://www.facebook.com/pg/ULOBA/photos/?tab=album&album_id=1542735802405702)



## **Portugal**

Centro de Vida Independente

<http://vidaindependente.org/>

Facebook page of Centro de Vida Independente

<https://www.facebook.com/Cvidaindependente/?fref=mentions>

“This is NOT Independent Living” social media campaign (#NãoeVidaIndependente) by Centro de Vida Independente

[https://www.facebook.com/hashtag/n%C3%A3o%C3%A9vidaindependente?source=feed\\_text&story\\_id=1528545847190910](https://www.facebook.com/hashtag/n%C3%A3o%C3%A9vidaindependente?source=feed_text&story_id=1528545847190910)

## **Romania**

CevaDeSpus self-advocating organization in Romania

<http://www.cevadespus.ro/en/>

European Independent Living Day celebration video by CevaDeSpus members

<https://www.facebook.com/CevaDeSpus/videos/1277799448964595/>

Adapto Youth Association

<http://www.adapto.ro/>

“Independent Living” presentation organized by Adapto Youth Association

[https://www.facebook.com/pg/Adapto-Youth-145498702184467/photos/?tab=album&album\\_id=1413948505339474](https://www.facebook.com/pg/Adapto-Youth-145498702184467/photos/?tab=album&album_id=1413948505339474)

Calea Europeană news portal Facebook page

[https://www.facebook.com/pg/CaleaEuropeana/videos/?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/pg/CaleaEuropeana/videos/?ref=page_internal)

Press release on 5 May by the Ministry of Labour and Social Justice of Romania (in Romanian)

<http://www.mmuncii.ro/j33/index.php/ro/comunicare/comunicate-de-presa/4862-cp-ziua-europeana-viata-independenta-05052017>

## **San Marino**

Attiva-Mente

<http://www.attiva-mente.info/>

Article on the public discussion on Independent Living for people with severe disabilities by Attiva-Mente

<http://www.attiva-mente.info/il2017.html>



Event Photos from the public discussion on Independent Living for people with severe disabilities by Attiva-Mente

<https://www.facebook.com/asanmarinoattivamente/posts/1032665683531877>

New coverage of the public discussion on Independent Living for people with severe disabilities by San Marino RTV channel

<http://www.smtvsanmarino.sm/video/programmi/khorakhane>

## **Serbia**

Photon from the street performance by CIL Jagodina

<https://www.facebook.com/ENILsecretaria/posts/995103707287492>

Event-discussion on Personal Assistance and Independent Living in Belgrade

[https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story\\_fbid=1447701668585554&id=141626232526444](https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=1447701668585554&id=141626232526444)

## **Slovakia**

Domov sociálnych služieb "Slatinka"

<https://www.facebook.com/dssslatinka/?fref=ts>

## **Slovenia**

YHD - Društvo za teorijo in kulturo hendikepa

<http://www.yhd-drustvo.si/home.html>

YHD Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/YHD-Dru%C5%A1tvo-za-teorijo-in-kulturo-hendikepa-118744110426/>

YHD Facebook groups

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1576654565889647/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/44590764565/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/270294656399524/>

Photos from the "Odprta kuhna" food market event

[https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story\\_fbid=10158627852465427&id=118744110426](https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=10158627852465427&id=118744110426)

Report on on the event on the daily news programme of the Slovenian Public TV station

<http://4d.rtv slo.si/arhiv/porocila/174469661>

Report on on the event on the daily news programme of the Za-misli portal





<http://za-misli.si/subkultura/3378-4-evropski-dan-neodvisnega-zivljenja>

## **Sweden**

Independent Living Institute

<http://www.independentliving.org/indexsv.html>

Joint statement-article with ENIL: "Independent Living under Threat in Europe: Sweden"

<http://enil.eu/news/independent-living-under-threat-in-europe-sweden/>

[http://enil.eu/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/IL\\_Under\\_Threat\\_Sweden.docx](http://enil.eu/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/IL_Under_Threat_Sweden.docx)

Press Release on the web portal <http://assistanskoll.se/> on the 5 May events in Sweden published

<https://assistanskoll.se/20170505-Utvecklingen-Sverige-uppmersammas-IL-dagen.html> (in Swedish)

The Nordic Network on Disability Research

<http://nndr.no/>

NNDR 14th Research Conference in Örebro from 3 to 5 May

<https://www.oru.se/jps/nndr2017/>

Journal Article "Right to Personal Assistance and its Portability in the European Union", by Jamie Bolling,, Mari Siilsalu and Ines Bulic, published in the French Journal Vie Sociale

<https://www.oru.se/contentassets/88cdb7ec9092454fb2f3ed9b068d569c/jamie-bolling.pdf>

STIL- The founders of the Independent Living in Sweden

<https://www.stil.se/en>

Conference on Personal Assistance Facebook event page

<https://www.facebook.com/events/297604060676162/>

Press release on the Conference on Personal Assistance

<https://www.stil.se/sv/nyheter/stils-konferens-lyfte-ny-kunskap-0>

## **Turkey**

Facebook page for the 4th European Independent Living Day events and messages in Turkey

<https://www.facebook.com/bagimsizyasamicin/>

Press Release on 5 May celebrations in Turkey

<https://www.facebook.com/bagimsizyasamicin/photos/a.1191611300947525.1073741828.1191599124282076/1196315480477107/?type=3&theater>



Independent Living Day message from Mediha Bozkır Yıldız

<https://www.facebook.com/bagimsizyasamicin/posts/1194419527333369>

Independent Living Day message from Gülseren Koçer

[https://www.facebook.com/bagimsizyasamicin/photos/a.1191611300947525.1073741828.1191599124282076/1195634960545159/?type=3&hc\\_ref=SEARCH](https://www.facebook.com/bagimsizyasamicin/photos/a.1191611300947525.1073741828.1191599124282076/1195634960545159/?type=3&hc_ref=SEARCH)

Independent Living Day message from Representative of Turkey at the World Cerebral Palsy Day Committee Umut Kosan (in Turkish)

<https://www.facebook.com/bagimsizyasamicin/videos/1195552690553386/>

Spina Bifida Association of Turkey

<http://www.spinabifida.org.tr/>

Charity bazaar organized on 5 May by SBAT

<https://www.facebook.com/trspinabifida/posts/1327135287335091>

Photos from the Charity bazaar organized on 5 May by SBAT

<https://www.facebook.com/trspinabifida/posts/1327135287335091>

<https://www.instagram.com/p/BTuSctJgisd/>

<https://twitter.com/trspinabifida/status/860439807738204161>

Campaign video “Are you Independent?” by a young member of SBAT (in Turkish with English subtitles)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IPMFy6UQZ04>

## **United Kingdom**

Animation video on Children in Institutions by self-advocates in Czech Republic supported by Lumos

<https://twitter.com/lumos/status/860467292194443266>

Centre for Independent Living NI

<http://cilni.org/>

“Michael shows us how his accessible vehicle gives him daily independence” Video by Trip-Ability

Founder Michael Holden MBE

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G57inxrjLWA>

Stop Camden Council cuts to social care meeting held in London on 8 May by Camden Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee

<https://dpac.uk.net/2017/05/stop-cuts-independent-living-camden-may-8th-6-15pm/>



Video greeting on 5 May by DMD Pathfinders CEO John Hastie

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KIFbJySDTh4>

Video Pledge on 5 May ENIL youth member Will Case

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/enilstudysession2012/permalink/1539568599400222/>

Video Series on Services for Independent Living by Services for Independent Living and The Rural Media Company

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOKckPA4fn8uYNWmRa00xEg>

“Wheeling at Home” Video by Trip-Ability Founder Michael Holden MBE

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PYVPLh8KclM>

### **Participating International organizations**

Autism Europe 5 May greeting

<https://twitter.com/AutismEurope/status/860443504195108864>

Independent Living Newsletter press release on 5 May

<http://preview.mailerlite.com/i1g5x1#1>

International Federation for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus (IF) article on 5 May

<https://www.ifglobal.org/en/2-uncategorised/4859-fourth-european-independent-living-day-2017>



Supported by the European Union

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