



# Freedom Drive 2022

26 – 28 September 2022, Brussels  
“50 Years of Independent Living”  
Dedicated to Kapka Panayotova

# DRAFT PROGRAMME

## DAY 0, 25 September

Date	Agenda
25 September, Sunday	Arrival of Freedom Drivers

## DAY 1, 26 September

Time	Agenda	Venue
9:00 – 18:00	Registration of Freedom Drivers	Nordic House Brussels, Rue du Luxembourg 3-5/, Mundo Madou: Artemisia room, Av. des Arts 7/8
9:00 – 18:00	Workshops	Artemisia – Mundo Madou, Nordic House Brussels, Rue du Luxembourg 3-5
9:00 – 18:00	Meetings with MEPs	European Parliament

## Parallel workshops

Time	Title	Speakers	Venue
10:00 – 12:00	<b>Workshop 1: Monitoring and reporting human rights violations</b>	<p><b>Moderator:</b> Rados Keravica</p> <p><b>‘The role of the disability movement in promoting the international monitoring of the UNCRPD’</b> – Hanxu Liu, DARE Researcher, University of Maastricht</p> <p><b>Practical ways of engaging with the treaty bodies and other UN mechanisms, to promote the rights of disabled people</b> – Juan Ignacio Perez Bello, International Disability Alliance</p> <p><b>Preparing a shadow report to the CRPD</b></p>	Nordic House Brussels

		<b>Committee at the national level – challenges &amp; opportunities</b> - Steven Allen, Validity Foundation	
10:00 – 12:00	<b>Workshop 2: Employment</b>	<p>Moderator: Charlie Willis</p> <p><b>Entrepreneurship for All Project presentation</b> – Melike Ergun Yilmaz, ENIL Ufuk Sabri Atalay, TUBITAK MARTEK (The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey, Marmara Technopark)</p> <p><b>Experience from Belgium</b> – Tess Van Deynse, ENIL Board</p> <p><b>Employing refugees: the experience of Disabled Refugees Welcome</b> – Rahel Atnafu, Independent Living Institute, Sweden</p>	Mundo Madou
13:00 – 15:00	<b>Workshop 3: Personal assistance</b>	<p>Moderator: Teodor Mladenov, Independent Living Research Network, ENIL</p> <p><b>PA for ALL – access for persons with complex needs?</b> – Jose Smits &amp; Thiandi Groff, Inclusion Europe</p> <p><b>Ensuring access to PA in old age</b> – Adolf Ratzka, ILI</p> <p><b>Tools for PA users – Recruitment guide by ILI</b> - Jamie Bolling, ILI &amp; Guide to PA by YHC – Klaudija Poropat, YHD , Slovenia</p>	Mundo Madou

13:00 – 15:00	<b>Workshop 4: Promoting the UN CRPD in Belgium (in Flemish)</b>	Moderator: Nadia Hadad  <b>Practical ways of engaging with the treaty bodies and other UN mechanisms, to promote the rights of disabled people</b> – Juan Ignacio Perez Bello, IDA [with interpretation into Flemish]  <b>The experience of preparing a shadow report on Belgium</b> - Patrick Vandelanotte, GRIP	Nordic House Brussels
16:00 – 18:00	<b>Workshop 5: Youth</b>	Moderator: Fatma Bulic  <b>Strategies for mobilising young people in the Independent Living organisations at national level – experience from Bosnia and Herzegovina</b> – Suvad Zahirovic, IC Lotos  <b>Starting a youth-led initiative – experience from Serbia</b> – Milica Veljkovic, Impact21, Serbia  <b>How to organise your own CRIP Camp</b> – Representative from ULOBA	Mundo Madou
16:00 - 18:00	<b>Workshop 6: Deinstitutionalisation</b>	Moderator: Nic Crosby, ENIL-ECCL  <b>CRPD Committee Guidelines on Deinstitutionalisation</b> - Jonas Ruskus, CRPD Committee (TBC)  <b>Disabled children and DI</b> - Rados Keravica, ENIL Board	Nordic House Brussels

		<p><b>Report on deinstitutionalisation in Sweden – "How large institutions were replaced by small institutions" – Riitta-Leena Karlsson, ILI</b></p> <p><b>ENIL's Shadow report on Article 19 at EU level – Lili Angelova Mladenova, ENIL</b></p>	
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19 :00 – 21:00	<b>Meeting of the task force on EC guidelines on IL/Board meeting/Youth Board, with dinner</b>	<p>Members of the Board + Youth Board</p> <p>Presentation of the work of the task force, followed by discussion – Florian Sanden</p>	Paulo Freire – Mundo J
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## DAY 2, 27 September

Time	Agenda
9:00	Set up for the protest/media interviews
10:00 – 13:00	Protest
15:00 – 17:00	Hearing in the European Parliament
19:00 – 23:00	Memorial for Kapka Panayotova & Party

## Workshop

14:00 – 19:00 (closed event, pre-selection)	<b>Future laboratory – Imagining inclusive and accessible societies</b>	Dr. Miro Griffiths, Leverhulme Researcher at the University of Leeds	Paulo Freire – Mundo J
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## **DAY 2, 27 September**

### **Hearing in the European Parliament**

#### **“Independent Living in Europe – Are we going from bad to worse?”**

**15:00 – 17:00, European Parliament, Room PHS 5B1**  
**Hosted by MEPs Marisa Matias (GUE/NGL) and José Gusmão (GUE/NGL)**

#### **Description of the event:**

This hearing will take place during the second day of the Freedom Drive, immediately after the protest. It will bring together Freedom Drivers – disabled people and allies – from across Europe, with Members of the European Parliament. The hearing will provide an opportunity for our political representatives to hear directly from disabled people about their lives and the barriers they continue to face to live independently in the community. The discussion takes place in the context of the combined second and third reviews of the European Union’s performance as a party to the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and at the early stages of the implementation of the European Disability Rights Strategy 2021 – 2030. It follows the COVID-19 pandemic and the devastating war in Ukraine. We will use it to draw attention to the most burning issues faced by members of the European Network on Independent Living today.

#### **Agenda:**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Title</b>
15:00 – 15:15	<b>Welcome and introduction</b> – Armen Alaverdyan, ENIL Board member, Marisa Matias MEP  Moderator of the event: Nadia Hadad, ENIL Co-Chair
15:15 – 15:30	<b>State of the Independent Living in Europe – overview of findings from ENIL’s Independent Living Survey and the Shadow report on implementation of the CRPD in the EU</b> – ENIL
15:30 – 16:15	<b>Perspectives from the Member States and EU neighbourhood:</b>  Suvad Zahirović, Lotus, Bosnia and Herzegovina Diogo Martins, Centre for Independent Living, Portugal Petra Flieger and Volker Shoenwiese, Independent Living Austria Patrick Vandelanotte, GRIP, Belgium

16:15 – 16:45	<b>What can we expect from the European Parliament? -</b> discussion with MEPs
16:45 – 16:55	<b>Presentation of Freedom Drive Demands – a</b> representative of ENIL Youth, TBC
16:55 – 17:00	<b>Closure of the event – Nadia Hadad, Co-Chair, ENIL</b>

## DAY 3, 28 September

### Freedom Drive Conference: “Exploring the Future of Independent Living”

**10:00 – 17:30 CEST**

**Hotel Renaissance, Rue du Parnasse 19**

Time	Title	Speakers/moderators
09:00 – 10:00	Welcome coffee/tea & registration	
10:00 – 11:30	<p><b>Session 1: Digital technologies and artificial intelligence: hope or danger for the independent living of disabled people?</b></p> <p>Opening of the conference and setting the scene</p> <p><b>Keynote presentation: Artificial intelligence and the rights of persons with disabilities</b></p> <p>Panel discussion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jamie Bolling, Co-Chair, ENIL</li> <li>• Katrin Langensiepen, MEP</li> <li>• José Gusmão, MEP</li>   <li>• Gerard Quinn, UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities</li>   <li>Moderator: Michael Holden, ENIL Board</li>   <li>• Alejandro Moledo, European Disability Forum</li> <li>• Alex Papanikolaou, Freedom One Life Ltd, Scotland</li> <li>• Diogo Martins, Center for Independent Living, Portugal</li> <li>• Katarina Ivankovic Knezevic, European Commission (TBC)</li> <li>• Facundo Chavez, UN OHCHR (online)</li> </ul>
11:30 – 12:00	Networking break with coffee/tea	
12 :00 – 13:30	<p><b>Session 2: Youth perspectives on Independent Living</b></p> <p><b>Keynote presentation: Imagining inclusive and accessible societies</b></p>	



	Panel discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Miro Griffiths, Leverhulme Researcher at the University of Leeds</li> </ul> <p>Moderator : Kamil Goungor, ENIL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Panagiotis Chatzimichail, European Youth Forum (TBC)</li> <li>• Representative of the European Commission (TBC)</li> <li>• Zara Todd, Child and youth participation expert, Scotland</li> <li>• Emma Åstrand, STIL, Sweden</li> <li>• Nicolas Joncour, France</li> </ul>
13:30 – 15:30	Lunch break	
15:30 – 17:00	<p><b>Session 3: Personal Assistance – Is there a need for a Europe-wide campaign?</b></p> <p><b>Keynote presentation : Personal Assistance 50 years on</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adolf Ratzka, Independent Living Institute</li> </ul> <p>Moderator: Jamie Bolling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A representative of ULOBA</li> <li>• Stelios Kypouroulous, MEP (TBC)</li> <li>• Mathilde Fuchs, Coordination Handicap et Autonomie (CHA), France</li> <li>• Rados Keravica, Serbia</li> <li>• Judith Heumann, disability rights advocate, USA (online)</li> </ul>
17:00 – 17:30	Conclusions and closure of the Freedom Drive	Nadia Hadad, Co-Chair, ENIL Gerard Quinn, UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

*Draft programme, Version 30 June 2022 (subject to change)*

## About the European Network on Independent Living

The European Network on Independent Living (ENIL) is a Europe-wide network of people with disabilities. It represents a forum intended for all disabled people, Independent Living organisations and their non-disabled allies on the issues of independent living. ENIL's mission is to advocate and lobby for Independent Living values, principles and practices, namely

for a barrier-free environment, deinstitutionalisation, provision of personal assistance support and adequate technical aids, together making full citizenship of disabled people possible.

ENIL has participatory status with the Council of Europe (i.e. is a member of the Conference of INGOs) and consultative status with ECOSOC.

## Contact us

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