



# Freedom Drive 2022

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

# DRAFT PROGRAMME

## DAY 0, 25 September

Date	Agenda
25 September, Sunday	Arrival of Freedom Drivers

## DAY 1, 26 September

Time	Agenda	Venue
09:00 – 18:00	Registration of Freedom Drivers	<b>Mundo Madou</b> , Artemisia Room, Avenue des Arts 7/8 (no payments) <b>Nordic House Brussels</b> , Rue du Luxembourg 3-5 (no payments) <b>Mundo J</b> , Rosa Parks Room, Rue de l'Industrie 10 (9h00 to 17h00, incl. registration fee payments)
09:00 – 18:00	Workshops	<b>Mundo Madou</b> , Artemisia Room, Avenue des Arts 7/8 <b>Nordic House Brussels</b> , Rue du Luxembourg 3-5
09:00 – 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>	<b>Moderator:</b> Steven Allen, Validity Foundation  <b>The role of the European Parliament in the CRPD implementation – Stelios Kypouropoulos, MEP</b>	Nordic House Brussels

		<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 Committee at the national level – challenges &amp; opportunities</b> - Steven Allen, Validity Foundation</p>	
10:00 – 12:00	<b>Workshop 2: Employment</b>	<p><b>Moderator:</b> Charlie Willis</p> <p><b>Entrepreneurship for All Project presentation</b> – Melike Ergun Yilmaz, ENIL &amp; Ufuk Sabri Atalay, TUBITAK MARTEK (The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey, Marmara Technopark)</p> <p><b>Personal experience from Belgium</b> – Tess Van Deynse, ENIL Board</p> <p><b>Employing refugees: the experience of Disabled Refugees Welcome</b> – Rahel Atnafu, Antwan Zolomyan &amp; Jamie Bolling, Independent Living Institute, Sweden</p>	Mundo Madou
13:00 – 15:00	<b>Workshop 3: Personal assistance</b>	<p><b>Moderator:</b> Teodor Mladenov, Independent Living Research Network, ENIL</p>	Mundo Madou

		<p><b>PA for ALL – access for persons with complex needs?</b> – Jose Smits &amp; Thiandi Groff, activists from the Netherlands</p> <p><b>Ensuring access to PA in old age</b> – Adolf Ratzka, ILI (online)</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>	
13:00 – 15:00	<b>Workshop 4: Youth</b>	<p><b>Moderator:</b> Suvad Zahirovic, IC Lotos, Bosnia and Herzegovina</p> <p><b>Strategies for mobilising young people in the Independent Living organisations at national level – experience from Bosnia and Herzegovina</b> – Suvad Zahirovic, IC Lotos, Bosnia and Herzegovina</p> <p><b>Starting a youth-led initiative – experience from Serbia</b> – Milica Veljkovic, Impact21, Serbia</p> <p><b>How to organise your own CRIP Camp</b> – Martine Eliasson, ULOBA</p>	Nordic House Brussels
16:00 – 18:00	<b>Workshop 5: Promoting the UN CRPD in Belgium (interpretation in French and Flemish will be provided)</b>	<p><b>Moderator:</b> Nadia Hadad, Co-Chair, ENIL</p> <p><b>Introduction to the UN CRPD and the system for monitoring and promotion of the Convention</b> - Susanne</p>	Mundo Madou

		<p>Bosman, UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Brussels Regional Office</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, IDA</p> <p><b>Government's plans for UN CRPD implementation</b> – Karine Lalieux, Minister of Pensions, Social Integration, Fighting Poverty and Disabled Persons</p> <p><b>The experience of preparing a shadow report on Belgium</b> - Patrick Vandelanotte, GRIP</p>	
16:00 - 18:00	<b>Workshop 6: Deinstitutionalisation</b>	<p><b>Moderator:</b> Nic Crosby, ENIL-ECCL</p> <p><b>CRPD Committee Guidelines on Deinstitutionalisation, including in Emergencies</b> - Catherine Ivonne Pedreros Puentes, Human Rights Officer, UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Brussels Regional Office</p> <p><b>Report on deinstitutionalisation in Sweden – "How large institutions were replaced by small institutions"</b> – Riitta-Leena Karlsson and Jamie</p>	Nordic House Brussels

		<p>Bolling, Independent Living Institute</p> <p><b>ENIL's Shadow report on Article 19 at EU level</b> – Lilia Angelova Mladenova, ENIL</p> <p><b>The role of the European Ombudsman in ensuring compliance with UNCRPD</b> – Valentina Stoeva, Inquiries Officer, European Ombudsman</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, ENIL</p>	<p>Paulo Freire – Mundo J</p>
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## DAY 2, 27 September

Time	Agenda
09:00	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 3C50**  
**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, Co-Chair, ENIL
15:15 – 15:30	<b>Presentation of Freedom Drive Demands</b> Florian Sanden, Policy Coordinator, 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



	<p>Petra Flieger and Volker Shoenwiese, Independent Living Austria</p> <p>Jos Huys, GRIP, Belgium</p>
16:15 – 16:45	<p><b>What can we expect from our elected representatives at the national and European level?</b></p> <p>Petra de Sutter – federal Deputy Prime Minister of Belgium</p> <p>Followed by discussion with MEPs</p>
16:45 – 16:55	<p><b>Presentation of ENIL’s petition to end institutions</b></p> <p>Miroslava-Mima Ivanovic, Initiative of Youth with Disabilities of Boka, Montenegro</p>
16:55 – 17:00	<p><b>Closure of the event</b></p> <p>Nadia Hadad, Co-Chair, ENIL</p>

## DAY 3, 28 September

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

**10:00 – 17:30**

**Hotel Renaissance, Rue du Parnasse 19**

Time	Title	Speakers/moderators
09:00 – 10:00	<b>Welcome coffee/tea &amp; registration</b>	
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>• Elke Van den Brandt, Minister for Mobility, Public Works and Road Safety</li> <li>• Katrin Langensiepen, MEP</li> <li>• José Gusmão, MEP</li> </ul> <p>• Gerard Quinn, UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (online)</p> <p>Moderator: Michael Holden, ENIL Board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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>• Laura Alčiauskaite, TRIPS Project Coordinator, ENIL</li> <li>• Inmaculada Placencia Porrero, Senior Expert – Social Affairs,</li> </ul>

		DG Employment, European Commission
11:30 – 12:00	<b>Networking break with coffee/tea</b>	
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> <p>Panel discussion</p>	<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>• Zara Todd, Child and youth participation expert, Scotland</li> <li>• Emma Åstrand, STIL, Sweden</li> <li>• Nicolas Joncour, France</li> <li>• Charlie Willis, England</li> </ul>
13:30 – 15:15	<b>Lunch break</b>	
15:15 – 17:00	<p><b>Session 3: Personal Assistance – Is there a need for a Europe-wide campaign?</b></p> <p><b>A message to Freedom Drivers from the Commissioner</b></p> <p><b>Keynote presentation: Personal Assistance 50 years on</b></p> <p>Panel discussion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Helena Dalli, Commissioner for Equality, European Commission</li> <li>• Adolf Ratzka, Independent Living Institute (online)</li> </ul> <p>Moderator: Jamie Bolling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Martine Eliasson, ULOBA</li> <li>• Mathilde Fuchs, Coordination Handicap et Autonomie (CHA), France</li> <li>• John Evans, Co-founder, ENIL, UK (online)</li> <li>• Judith Heumann, disability rights advocate, USA (online)</li> </ul>
17:00 – 17:30	<b>Summary of the key messages and closure of the Freedom Drive</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Florian Sanden, Policy Coordinator, ENIL</li> <li>• Jamie Bolling, Co-Chair, ENIL</li> <li>• Nadia Hadad, Co-Chair, ENIL</li> </ul>

## 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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Co-funded by  
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*The organisation of this event was made possible thanks to funding from the European Union, with additional financial and in kind support provided by ULOBA (Norway), STIL, GIL (Sweden), GUE/NGL Group in the European Parliament, Oslo Region, European Office, the City of Brussels and AccessoLoo*

*(Northern Ireland). ENIL would also like to thank the Police of Brussels CAPITALE Ixelles and STIB/MIVB for their cooperation in making the ENIL 2022 Freedom Drive possible.*

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