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2022



EUROPEAN NETWORK ON INDEPENDENT LIVING - ENIL

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Photo description: A member of the ENIL Youth Network Board Clementine Willow Doevendans speaks into a megaphone during the Freedom Drive protest in Brussels (cover page); ENIL Co-Chairs Nadia Hadad and Jamie Bolling speak from the podium at the beginning of the Freedom Drive protest in Brussels (page 3); a Freedom Drive participant during the protest, with a banner 'Fix the system, not me' (page 4 and 5); a member of the ENIL Youth Network Board Nora Eklov speaking into a megaphone during the Freedom Drive protest in Brussels (page 6); Freedom Drive participants during the protest, shouting into a megaphone and moving through the streets of Brussels (page 8 and 9); a participant in the Freedom Drive wearing the T-shirt 'Proud, Strong and Visible' (page 13); a Freedom Drive participant during the protest, with a banner 'Piss on pity' (top) and a member of ENIL's delegation during the European Day of Persons with Disabilities event in Brussels (page 14); participants in ENIL's event in the European Parliament, as part of the PAKT Project (page 15); Freedom Drive participants before one of the workshops (page 16); ENIL Policy Coordinator Florian Sanden holding a sign in front of the European Parliament (page 17); Commissioner Dalli speaking during the Freedom Drive conference (top), Freedom Drive bags (middle) and participants during a Freedom Drive workshop (page 18); ENIL's delegation during the European Day of Persons with Disabilities event in Brussels (top) and a participant during the Freedom Drive protest (page 19); ENIL hearing in the European Parliament during the Freedom Drive (page 20); ENIL Policy Coordinator Florian Sanden and Co-Chair Nadia Hadad with Stelios Kympouropoulos MEP (page 21); speaking panel during the MEOSZ event in the European Parliament, supported by ENIL (page 22); participants during the launch of the Guidelines on deinstitutionalisation in Brussels, with UN OHCHR Brussels Office (page 23)



Foreword by the Co-Chairs

Dear members and allies,

Every year is an important lobby year for ENIL as across Europe we see how the situation of disabled people is threatened and the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) is not being respected. Once the CRPD is ratified, the situation of disabled people should become better, not worse. The year of 2022 was overshadowed by the war in Ukraine, leaving all people in a non-describable situation and disabled people of Ukraine even worse off.

Institutionalization is a threat and reality in many countries, including Scandinavia, where the service of personal assistance is either nonexistent or suffering cuts. There are cuts in other areas from transport services to support for blind people having services to allow them to go from one place to another. There seems to be a change in respect and support for disabled people in many countries, which is worrisome.

The Freedom Drive was a success with almost 300 people being able to meet and gain inspiration. Stories and strategies were shared allowing people to go home with more energy for the work that we each have on hand. ENIL was supported by our members ULOBA, STIL and GIL, the European Commission, and for this we want to say thank you.

ENIL is dependent on all who support us. We take this opportunity to say thank you. We are proud to work with all of you and hope that our tasks become easier instead of more difficult which is the trend at this time. From all the members and volunteers who carry out unpaid tasks to the employees of organizations that permit our work to make a difference. Thank you to all of you!

Jamie Bolling and Nadia Hadad, ENIL Co-Chairs

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About ENIL

The European Network on Independent Living (ENIL) is a Europe-wide network of disabled people, with members throughout Europe. ENIL is a forum for all disabled people, Independent Living organizations and their non-disabled allies on the issues of Independent Living. ENIL represents the disability movement for human rights and social inclusion based on solidarity, peer support, deinstitutionalization, democracy, self-representation, cross disability and self-determination.

ENIL's vision is of Europe where all disabled people are able to exercise choice and control over their lives, on an equal level with others; where they are valued members of the community and can enjoy all of their human rights, as set out in the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).

ENIL's mission is to advocate and lobby for Independent Living values, principles and practices, namely for a barrier-free environment, provision of personal assistance support and adequate technical aids, together making full citizenship of disabled people possible. ENIL's activities target European, national and local administrations, politicians, media, and the general society. ENIL works to strengthen the empowerment of disabled people, mainly through providing resources for peer support and peer-to-peer training. ENIL enhances the European disability sector by providing an arena for the sharing of disabled people's experience of services and by providing economical, logistics and technical expertise on independent living. ENIL prides itself on providing a strong platform for grassroots activists and organizations.

ENIL is a pan disability organization, which means that we promote Independent Living for all disabled people. We work directly with disabled individuals, organisations (such as Centers of Independent Living), politicians, media, the business world and any individual or organization interested in learning about Independent Living history, values, principles and its practical application. We also work with non-disabled people and mainstream human rights organizations, whom we consider to be important allies to disabled people's rights movement.

Our main objectives are:

- To connect lived experience of disabled people across Europe to policy making at the EU level;
- To build the capacity of disabled people and disabled people's organizations to gain skills and confidence needed to lead change and advocate for their rights;
- To campaign for independent living, the full implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) in Europe, against poor practices, and to ensure that disabled people and disabled people's organizations are heard; and
- To champion disabled people's rights to have choice and control over their lives and to be part of their communities, through research, publications and toolkits.

We work on a selected number of areas, namely: Independent Living, deinstitutionalization, personal assistance, peer support, accountability in the use of funding, youth, disability hate crime, inclusive education and development cooperation. We use an intersectional approach and promote real co-production.

We strive to reach our objectives by carrying out four main types of activities:

- **AWARENESS RAISING ACTIVITIES:** these include the Freedom Drive, the European Independent Living Day on the 5th May, and the EU Funds for Our Rights Campaign.
- **ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES:** we target EU institutions, the Council of Europe, the United Nations treaty bodies and agencies, the national Governments and funders, through position papers, briefings, submissions, letters and meetings.
- **CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES:** these include seminars, conferences, study sessions, trainings, study visits, training modules, webinars, the leadership programme for young disabled people and the European Coalition for Community Living.
- **ANALYTICAL ACTIVITIES AND DATA COLLECTION:** these include surveys, studies, fact sheets, manuals and toolkits, as well as the Independent Living Research Network.

1. Our main achievements in 2022

The Freedom Drive returns to Brussels

After three years of online events, restrictions and uncertainty, we managed to come together in Brussels for the 10th Freedom Drive. Despite the impact Covid 19 pandemic had on disabled people and our organisations, we were happy to see close to 300 activists make the journey to Belgium. The programme was richer than ever, with many workshops, a full day conference, a hearing in the European Parliament, an event to remember our late President Kapka Panayotova and a funeral themed protest in the EU quarter. Our demands were delivered to the Commissioner for Equality Helena Dalli, in a joint effort by ENIL and our Youth Network. Once again, the Freedom Drive proved to be an important occasion, for coming together, exchanging ideas, solidarity and recharging batteries for the fight for independent living in Europe.

Our contribution to the first global Guidelines on deinstitutionalisation

The Covid 19 Disability Rights Monitor, of which we were part, showed the impact the pandemic had on disabled people in institutions. This then inspired the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to form a working group on deinstitutionalisation and start elaborating the *Guidelines on deinstitutionalisation, including in Emergencies*. With other organisations, we established the Global Coalition on Deinstitutionalisation (GC-DI) to support this work. Our focus was on making sure that the Committee hears from disabled people affected by institutionalisation from around the world. This work was successfully completed in September, when the Committee adopted the first ever global Guidelines on deinstitutionalisation.





Participating in the review of the European Union by the CRPD Committee

The European Union is undergoing its combined second and third review by the CRPD Committee. To make sure that the Committee has enough information for its List of Issues Prior to Reporting (LOIPR), we published our second shadow report. The shadow report put a spotlight on the situation of disabled people in institutions, which we address through different articles of the CRPD. To make the report more accessible, we prepared a number of short videos, explaining the rights violations that the EU needs to tackle. We also worked together with other EU level organisations and met the rapporteur Marcus Schefer. The result was the LOIPR which includes our key recommendations, especially in relation to Article 19.

Care Strategy Campaign

A new European Care Strategy was adopted by the EU, which takes us back to the outdated notions of care and the medical model. Despite the fact that many disabled and older people are affected by institutionalisation, and lack access to community-based support, the Care Strategy failed to address that. For this reason, we put together a brief but effective campaign, with the aim of raising awareness about the gap between the Care Strategy and the CRPD, and opposing the Council recommendation on long-term care. While we were not successful in changing this recommendation, we managed to get the support of many members, who wrote to their national Governments. In addition, we held meetings with different stakeholders and were able to raise awareness about the need for a paradigm shift and the importance of the social and human rights models of support.

2. Highlights by work area

Influencing Policy



Implementation of CRPD in the European Union

ENIL's Shadow report on the implementation of the CRPD in the European Union was submitted to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the rapporteur for the EU Marcus Schefer on 14 February. In addition to the report, a longer and a number of shorter videos¹ (article by article) were produced, to make the information more accessible.

As part of the preparation for adoption of the List of Issues Prior to Reporting, we attended a closed meeting with the CRPD Committee on 16 March and delivered a statement during the opening plenary of the session.

To increase visibility of ENIL, as well as the CRPD implementation and review process, we had an article published in Social Europe².

In addition to the review process by the CRPD Committee, ENIL contributed to the country visit to the European Union by the UN Special Rapporteur on

the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Gerard Quinn in March. On 21 March, our Co-chair Nadia Hadad attended a meeting with the UN Special Rapporteur and selected EU-level NGOs, while on 22 March, we had a private meeting with Prof. Quinn, focusing on ENIL's concerns in the EU.

Task force on the Independent Living Guidance

A Task Force was established to help ENIL formulate its proposal for the European Commission's Guidance on Independent Living. An open call for participation was published in April and a total of 33 participants were selected.

The task force met three times during the year, in May, July and September. We heard from Stig Landvåg, a former member of the CRPD Committee from Denmark, Antonia Trikalioti, from I-Living Greece and Ima Plancencia-Porrero, from the Disability Unit at the European Commission.

¹ See: https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLM2bLC11Amp82i_lqq8pmdqD8eT5R_rwP

² Social Europe, Deinstitutionalisation, disability and delay, 10 May 2022. Available at: <https://socialeurope.eu/disability-deinstitutionalisation-and-delay>

Update of the Independent Living Map

The starting point for the Independent Living Map were 43 country sheets drafted in 2020, but which required editing, updating and finalising.

During April and May, ENIL members (which took part in the first survey in 2020) were sent their original country sheets, with additional questions regarding access to employment. Based on their responses, the country sheets were updated and uploaded on ENIL's website³.

The results of the Independent Living survey have been used throughout the year as basis for input into the various consultations, and were presented to ENIL members during the Regional Members' meeting, to the Task Force on Independent Living, as well as in the European Parliament. ENIL also relied on the results while contributing to the EEG Task Force on the European Semester.

A summary report⁴, focusing on Personal Assistance schemes, was also published in December.

War in Ukraine

Since the beginning of Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, much of Europe's attention has turned to supporting people in Ukraine and those fleeing the country. As ENIL did not have organisational members in Ukraine, we provided guidance to our members on how best to support disabled people's organisations and other NGOs working with disabled people.

We were especially concerned by the situation of children and adults in institutions, and refugee children and adults being placed in institutions in the EU Member States. With DRI, we co-organised a webinar on the situation of children in institutions in May. In June, we sent an Open Letter to the European Commission expressing our concerns about a Memorandum of Understanding by the Government of Ukraine, which encouraged the placement of children from Ukraine in institutions in the EU Member States. An article was published in Eurac-

tiv⁵, written by ENIL's Policy Coordinator Florian Sanden.

Having received some donations in support of Ukraine's children, ENIL redirected them to two organisations working with children in Ukraine – Superheroes School and Maximus.

Freedom Drive demands

In preparation for the Freedom Drive march, on September 14, we published the Freedom Drive Demands⁶.

On September 27, during the protest march, the demands were handed over to the Commissioner for Equality Helena Dalli and were presented at the hearing in the European Parliament, as well as the end of the Freedom Drive conference on September 28.

The Freedom Drive Demands were sent to approximately 250 contacts at the EU institutions, the media and other organisations. An article was published in Euractiv⁷.

Disability Platform

ENIL participated actively in the newly established Disability Platform⁸, where we have been represented by our Co-Chair Nadia Hadad, along with the Policy Coordinator and the Director. During the June meeting, we presented ENIL's Shadow Report on the European Union. We also took part in two Disability Platform subgroups – Accessible EU and Disability Card.

European Year of Youth

Considering the importance of youth issues to ENIL and our Youth Network, we joined the European Commission's Stakeholders Group for the European Year of Youth, where we were represented by Kamil Goungor.

On 24 May, we took part in the Youth Policy Dialogue, on the role of equality bodies, with the Commissioner for Equality Helena Dalli, organised by the European Commission in Brussels.

3 Independent Living Map, available at: <https://enil.eu/il-map/>

4 Summary report, available at: <https://enil.eu/il-map/>

5 Euractiv, *Disabled children and the war against Ukraine*, 1 June 2022.

Available at: <https://www.euractiv.com/section/justice-home-affairs/opinion/disabled-children-and-the-war-against-ukraine/>

6 Freedom Drive demands, available at: <https://enil.eu/freedom-drive-2022/>

7 Euractiv, *Time for the European Union to get serious on disability rights*, 7 September 2022. Available at:

<https://www.euractiv.com/section/non-discrimination/opinion/time-for-the-european-union-to-get-serious-on-disability-rights/>

8 See: <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=750&newsId=10124&furtherNews=yes>

Awareness Raising

10th Freedom Drive

The Freedom Drive took place from 26 – 28 September in Brussels. This was the 10th edition of the event and it was the first in-person gathering since the start of the COVID 19 pandemic. It also coincided with the 50th anniversary of the Independent Living Movement.

There were 242 participants registered, as well as 57 personal assistants for the entire Freedom Drive, though not everyone took part in all events. We estimate that some 300 people took part in the protest march through Brussels – a success given the rainy and cold weather.

The report from the Freedom Drive is available here: <https://enil.eu/research-papers-and-reports/>

- **Protest in front of the EU institutions**

The march started at Parc du Cinquantaire, where the stage was set for messages from ENIL's leadership and supporting organisations. A mock funeral hearse, flowers and 100 tombstones were prepared in advance, to symbolise the deaths of hundreds of thousands of disabled people during the COVID-19 pandemic and in institutions. The mock tombstones were distributed to the Freedom Drivers.

The protesters headed from the park towards the European Parliament, passing the key EU institutions, such as the European Council and the European Commission, as well as some permanent missions. In front of the Berlaymont building, a delegation from the ENIL Board and the Youth Board met the Commissioner for Equality Helena Dalli⁹ to hand over the Freedom Drive demands. The whole march was live streamed on Facebook.

- **Roundtable in the European Parliament**

The roundtable (hearing) in the European Parliament took place on 27 September, under the title *"Independent Living in Europe – Are we going from bad to worse?"*. It was hosted by the Members of the European Parliament Marisa Matias (GUE/NGL)



and José Gusmão (GUE/NGL), with Katrin Langensiepen (the Greens) also speaking. MEPs Matias and Gusmão helped secure a large fully accessible room, which made it possible for everyone interested to take part. The hearing was attended by about 100 participants, including personal assistants, and several MEPs.

Florian Sanden presented the results of ENIL's Independent Living Survey. Petra Fliieger and Volker Shoenwiese, from Independent Living Austria, gave a concise summary of the state of affairs in Austria. Jos Huys from GRIP in Belgium explained that the number of personal budget holders in Flanders had increased in recent years. Diogo Martins, from CIL Portugal, spoke about the EU funded personal assistance scheme, while Miroslava Mima Ivanović (ENIL Youth Network) presented ENIL's

9 See: <https://youtu.be/Klda6uEsjZA>



petition¹⁰ against institutionalisation. The hearing was recorded and can be watched here¹¹.

- **Workshops**

There were six workshops organised during the first day of the Freedom Drive, on 26 September: on monitoring and reporting human rights violations, employment, Personal Assistance, youth, promoting the UN CRPD in Belgium, and deinstitutionalisation. Each workshop was attended by an average of 60 participants. Speakers included our members from Belgium, the Netherlands, Hungary, Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as Karine Lalieux, the Minister for Disabled Persons in Belgium and Catherine Ivonne Pedreros from the UN OHCHR Brussels Regional Office.

In addition, Dr. Miro Griffiths, Leverhulme Researcher at the University of Leeds, organised a successful half-day workshop called “Future laboratory – Imagining inclusive and accessible societies”. This was open to young disabled people taking part in the Freedom Drive. They were engaged in activities and interviewed for a documentary, which is being recorded by the film maker Paul Darke as part of the research project.

- **Conference on the future of Independent Living**

The conference, titled “Exploring the future of independent living”, was held on the last day of the Freedom Drive, on 28 September, with 144 people taking part.

10 See: https://www.change.org/p/end-institutionalisation-of-disabled-people-in-europe?recruiter=16606858&recruited_by_id=3631edb0-f9e2-012f-d86d-4040b09128dc&utm_source=share_petition&utm_medium=copylink&utm_campaign=petition_dashboard

11 See: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gwfzrRTjD-c>

The conference consisted of three sessions, covering the following topics: Digital technologies and artificial intelligence; hope or danger for the independent living of disabled people; Youth perspectives on independent living, and Personal Assistance – Is there a need for a Europe-wide campaign?

Among the speakers were some of the pioneers of Independent Living in Europe and globally – Adolf Ratzka, John Evans and the late Judith Heumann, from the US.

The EU Commissioner for Equality, Helena Dalli presented the Commission’s Disability Employment Package, while Belgium’s Minister for Mobility, Public Works and Road Safety Elke Van den Brandt answered criticism about the inaccessibility of Brussels. The recording of the conference is available here¹².

• **Memorial for Kapka Panayotova**

Before the dinner and party on 27 September, we held a memorial for our former President Kapka Panayotova, who passed away suddenly at the end of 2021. Kapka was with us at most (if not all) of the previous Freedom Drives and left a huge gap in the Independent Living movement. Mitko Nikolov, from CIL Sofia, delivered a moving tribute to Kapka and we showed a video¹³ with memories of our former President.

We also remembered some of the other Independent Living activists who passed away since the last Freedom Drive in 2019: Gordana Rajkov from Serbia, Gabor Gombos from Hungary, Corina Zolle from Germany, Slawek Besowski from Poland, Emil Bohinc from Slovenia, Ismael Llorens Santamaria from Spain and Manfred Srb from Austria.

• **Media coverage**

The Freedom Drive generated attention of the Belgian, national and local media. The most important contribution was a report in the French speaking Belgian press¹⁴.

More media coverage can be found under the links below:

- https://www.brusselstimes.com/belgium/296696/freedom-drive-disabled-belgians-demonstrate-in-brussels-for-improved-rights?utm_term=Autofeed&utm_medium=Social&utm_source=Facebook#Echo-box=1664317451
- <https://www.bruzz.be/videoreeks/dinsdag-27-september-2022/video-honderdtal-deelnemers-aan-freedom-drive-voor-mensen-met>
- https://www.nieuwsblad.be/cnt/dmf20220927_94095425
- <https://www.hln.be/binnenland/mensen-met-handicap-komen-op-straat-voor-gelijke-kansen-met-freedom-drive-door-brussel-we-missen-betaalbare-en-toegankelijke-huisvesting~a51318e4/>
- <https://www.knack.be/opinie/meer-rechten-voor-personen-met-een-handicap-er-gaapt-een-diepe-kloof-tussen-woord-en-daad/>

European Independent Living Day

On 5 May, we celebrated another European Independent Living Day. To mark the European Year of Youth, the 2023 edition was dedicated to young disabled people.

In addition to extensive social media coverage of the events organised by our members, we held two events:

- Webinar of the ENIL Youth Network on “Young Disabled Leaders and the Importance to be Involved in the Decision Making Process”
- With Disability Rights International, a webinar on the situation of children in institutions in Ukraine, launching DRI’s report and showing footage from Ukraine¹⁵.

Training for public notaries

In cooperation with the Council of the Notariats of the European Union – CNEU, we organised an online

12 See: <https://youtu.be/RsAKp4pKako>

13 See: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ph0r3WEreBU&feature=youtu.be>

14 See: https://www.rtbef.be/auvio/detail_inclusion-interpellation-europeenne?id=2943265

15 See: <https://youtu.be/5zOdFycbNTg>

training on the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, with a focus on Article 19 and Article 12. The training was delivered by trainers from ENIL and the Validity Foundation using theory and case studies to explain the material. A member of CNEU also presented good practices by public notaries in the area of disability. The training was held in English, with interpretation into French.

Myth buster on Personal Assistance

Based on the concerns brought to us by our members, and during the peer support meetings on personal assistance (PAUC), we published a new Myth buster on Personal Assistance. This is the third publication in the Myth Buster series, following the ones on Independent Living and using the European Union funds to support Independent Living. It can be downloaded from here: https://enil.eu/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Myths-Buster_Personal-assistance_web_low-res-1.pdf

Participating in events

We took part in many meetings and events during the year where we raised awareness about the right to independent living. This is a selection of events we attended.

January

- Conference on Disability and Social Inclusion in the Mediterranean, organised by the Union for the Mediterranean and ONCE Spain

March

- “L'autonomie de vie comme droit humain”, organised by Capdroits
- Event on the impact of COVID on disabled people, organised by the European Network of National Human Rights Institutions – ENNHRI
- Virtual public hearing on Youth in the EU labour market
- Conference on access to health care, organised by the European Economic and Social Committee
- Peer-to-Peer Training on the use of the European Social Fund to train people to take up roles needed to support independent living, organised by the European Commission

April

- Conference on inclusive mobility programmes, organised by SOIH Croatia

- Forum on the present and future of citizenship and human rights education in Europe, organised by the Council of Europe, the Italian government and Amnesty International

May

- European Accessibility Summit 2022

June

- Navigating Transitions: adapting policy to young people's changing realities, symposium organised by European Commission and the Council of Europe
- 15th Session of the Conference of States Parties to the CRPD and the Civil Society Forum

September

- Youth workshop on independent living and disabled youth, organised by the International Federation for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus – IFSBH
- Challenges of Sustainability Research, organised by the Kassel Institute for Sustainability
- 27th session of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

October

- Inclusive cities by reshaping urban mobility, workshop organised by the Greens in the Committee of the Regions in the framework of the European Regions Week 2022
- Public hearing on “Climate justice: how it is affecting people with disabilities in Europe and in the world” organised by the European Economic and Social Committee
- Academy of European Law (ERA) Annual Conference on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2022, under the theme “Work and Social Protection-Related Legal Challenges and Best Practice”
- Roadmap Action-oriented Dialogue: Inclusive and Collaborative Systems for Heat and Wildfire Risks Governance, organised by the Government of Greece with the support of the European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction Secretariat and UN-DRR Office for Arab States
- General Assembly of the Conference of INGOs at the Council of Europe

November

- 8th Polish Conference of Disabled People
- European Day of Persons with Disabilities Conference, organised by the European Commission

Capacity Building

Regional members' meeting for Central and Eastern Europe

On 7 – 8 July, we held a very successful regional members' meeting in Budapest, Hungary. It was organised in cooperation with our Hungarian members – MEOSZ, the Validity Foundation and Freekey.

The meeting was attended by 30 participants from the Central and Eastern Europe region, covering Hungary, Croatia, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Slovenia, Poland and Austria. Those who could not make it in person joined online. All the participants presented the challenges, but also good practices from their countries. A major part of the meeting was used for discussing and comparing different personal assistance schemes.

ENIL-ECCL webinars on deinstitutionalisation

On 4 March, we held the first in the series of ENIL-ECCL webinars, on deinstitutionalization in low-income countries, with speakers from India and Moldova. The recording is available here.

The second webinar was held on 2 April, on deinstitutionalization of children and young people with disabilities, with speakers from Slovenia and Greece¹⁶.

On 22 November, the final webinar focused on operationalizing the Guidelines on deinstitutionalisation, including in Emergencies. We heard from

Ritta-Lena Karlsson from the Independent Living Institute in Sweden and projects managers from two institutions in Slovenia which are in the process of 'transformation'¹⁷.

Personal Assistance Users' Club – PAUC

At the initiative of our member Alessandra Grotta, from Sweden, we started PAUC – the Personal Assistance Users' Club. Four online meetings were organised before the summer, and four after the summer. They were each attended by a small group of disabled people using personal assistance, who were able to discuss practical aspects of having personal assistance.

Supporting our members

In June, we supported the Validity Foundation, from Hungary, in organising the final project conference in Brussels, for two EU funded projects on access to justice for disabled people – Child-Friendly Justice and Voices for Justice¹⁸.

We also supported MEOSZ, from Hungary, in organising an event in the European Parliament on 6 December, focused on the implementation of accessibility requirement in the use of EU Funds. The event was titled "We can't afford to fund building more barriers! – Do EU funds support accessibility in Europe?" and it was hosted by MEP Lucia Duris Nicholsonova¹⁹.

16 See: <https://youtu.be/8W1pAID3cdw>

17 See: <https://youtu.be/APXqUecLkrk>

18 See: <https://validity.ngo/2022/05/31/humanising-justice-conference-and-webinar-series-in-brussels/>

19 See: <https://www.meosz.hu/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Background-document-We-cannot-afford-to-build-more-barriers-1.pdf>



Campaigning

EU Funds for Our Rights

In February, we published a report with the European Disability Forum on the 'Role of the European Union funding in supporting deinstitutionalisation around the world – A Call for Change'²⁰. The launch event was postponed until 5 April, because of the start of the war in Ukraine. It brought together the UN Special Rapporteur Gerard Quinn, the CRPD Committee Vice-Chair Jonas Ruskus, and representatives of UNICEF and UNDP. A social media campaign on deinstitutionalisation accompanied the report and the launch.

We contributed to the European Ombudsman's own-initiative inquiry on how the European Commission monitors the use of European Structural and Investment Funds (ESI Funds), to ensure they are used to promote the right to independent living. The Ombudsman published her decision in April, with a number of recommendations for the European Commission.

We received the results from our complaint against Poland, in relation to a large institution built with ESI Funds. Once again, the European Commission found that neither the CRPD nor the EU Fundamental Rights Charter have been violated. Our complaint and the decision are available here: <https://enil.eu/funding/>



During the year, we attended two meetings of the European Community of Practice on Partnership (ECOPP) and the Common Provisions Regulation Expert Groups, of which we are a member. During the first meeting, we spoke to the Director General of DG Regio, Marc Lemaitre, about the misuse of funds for the building of institutions and the importance of not funding institutions in Ukraine. During the second meeting, the focus was on partnership with the Managing Authorities and how we can make it work in practice.

In October, with Bridge EU and the Validity Foundation, we co-organised a training for the European Commission officials from DG Regio, where we presented the new *Guidelines on deinstitutionalisation, including in Emergencies*.

On 3 November, with Independent Living Austria, we submitted our third complaint to the European Commission on the misuse of EUR 1 million from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) for the construction of a residential facility for children.

Our work on EU Funds was covered by Social Europe²¹.

20 See: https://enil.eu/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/ENILEDI-Global-Report_Final_forPublication_140222.pdf

21 Social Europe, *Disability: EU funding of institutions barely legal*, 7 July 2022.

Available at: <https://socialeurope.eu/disability-eu-funding-of-institutions-barely-legal>

European Care Strategy Campaign

ENIL's work on older persons with disabilities was carried out in the framework of the EU Care Strategy and the corresponding Council recommendation on long-term care. Our main aim was to ensure that the Care Strategy facilitates access to Independent Living of older and disabled people. Thus, while the discussions on the upcoming Strategy were in progress, we submitted a contribution to the public consultation²² and took part in the strategic dialogue organised by the European Commission.

After the Care Strategy was published in September by the European Commission, ENIL published a detailed statement²³ focused on its failure to comply with the CRPD. An article explaining our position was also published in Social Europe²⁴.

We also decided to initiate an urgent action campaign²⁵ against the draft Council recommendation

on long-term care and sent detailed amendments to Member State governments, together with letters asking for support.

ENIL members from 10 Member States joined the Care Strategy Campaign and, as a result, 10 governments were contacted. We also met with some Member State representatives and raised our concerns in the Civil Society Coalition on Long-term Care. To our disappointment, the Council recommendation on long-term care passed without our amendments.

Finally, on 15 December, we organised a webinar on ageing, entitled "Age and Disability: A Blindspot in Policy Making?", with Adolf Ratzka, MEP Jose Gusmao and Melike Bal, a member of ENIL Youth Board as speakers²⁶.



22 See: https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/13298-European-care-strategy/F2953331_en

23 See: <https://enil.eu/statement-on-the-european-care-strategy/>

24 Social Europe, Does the European Care Strategy care about disability?, 3 November 2022.

Available at: <https://socialeurope.eu/does-the-european-care-strategy-care-about-disability>

25 See: <https://enil.eu/call-for-urgent-action-participation/>

26 See: <https://youtu.be/WOUYxujHwOE>

Promoting Independent Living Internationally

Guidelines on deinstitutionalisation, including in Emergencies

We carried out numerous activities related to the CRPD Committee's *Guidelines on deinstitutionalisation, including in Emergencies*, many as part of our membership of the Global Coalition on Deinstitutionalisation (GC-DI). On 2 June, with GC-DI, we had a joint event to promote the consultation on the draft Guidelines, with interpretation into French, Spanish, Japanese and Bahasa Indonesian.

We facilitated the involvement of our members, as well as people living in institutions and survivors of institutionalisation, in the consultation on the draft Guidelines. We also submitted comments on the draft Guidelines, which were published on the Committee's website. The Guidelines²⁷ were published by the CRPD Committee on 9 September.

On 1 December, we co-organised with the Brussels Regional Office of the UN OHCHR a launch event to promote the newly adopted Guidelines to European stakeholders. Jonas Ruskus, Vice-Chair of the CRPD Committee presented the Guidelines. The UN Special Rapporteur Gerard Quinn discussed the ongoing problems of the spending of EU funds on institutions. For the European Commission, the Director Katarina Ivanković-Knežević participated in the event.

The launch of the Guidelines was accompanied by a social media campaign, in cooperation with the UN OHCHR.

ENIL's work on deinstitutionalisation was also covered in the media, in Social Europe²⁸, and in another article²⁹ dealing with the lack of progress. We also spoke to the mainstream press, such as LeMonde Diplomatique, BBC and RTV Slovenia, which published an interview with ENIL³⁰ on deinstitutionalisation on 3 December, the International Day of Disabled People.



Conference of States Parties to the CRPD

We organised an online side event during the 15th Session of the Conference of States Parties to the CRPD on 14 June. The event was organised in cooperation with Disability Rights Defenders, on the topic of 'Resisting calls for investments in institutions'³¹.

Our Co-Chair Nadia Hadad also spoke at a roundtable on deinstitutionalization during the COSP Civil Society Forum on 13 June. She also delivered a statement on ENIL's behalf during the COSP opening session.

27 See: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/documents/legal-standards-and-guidelines/crpd5-guidelines-deinstitutionalization-including>

28 Social Europe, Deinstitutionalising disabled people – making it happen, 1 September 2022.

Available at: <https://socialeurope.eu/deinstitutionalising-disabled-people-making-it-happen>

29 Social Europe, *Deinstitutionalisation, disability and delay*, 10 May 2022.

Available at: <https://socialeurope.eu/disability-deinstitutionalisation-and-delay>

30 See: <https://www.rtvsl.si/dostopno/clanki/vsi-bi-imeli-boljso-prihodnost-ce-bi-zahtevali-skupnosti-ki-vkljucujejo-vse/649677>

31 See: <https://youtu.be/-P03ANFIPxw>

27th Session of the CRPD Committee

We attended the 27th session of the CRPD Committee in Geneva in September. We were represented by our Co-Chair Nadia Hadad, who took part in the closed meeting of the Committee with the Global Coalition on Deinstitutionalisation. She also met with several members of the Committee, including Danlami Basharu, Miyeon Kim, Abdelmajid Makni and Risnawati Utami.

Meeting with the delegation from Japan

On 26 August, we received a delegation from Independent Living organisations from Japan in our secretariat in Brussels. Toshiko Kudo and Shigeto Itani spoke about their work to bring disabled people out of institutions and their efforts to make built environments wheelchair accessible in Japan³².

UNICEF White paper on boarding schools

ENIL was invited to join a UNICEF reference group on boarding schools for children, as part of the process of drafting a white paper on the topic. ENIL's role is to ensure broader consultation with DPOs and to collect experience of those with lived experience of boarding schools. The work of the reference group has not progressed, however, because of the war in Ukraine and UNICEF's engagement there.

Participating in consultations

ENIL was approached by Agenzija Saport in Malta (a state-run service provider) to nominate 3 persons to sit on the advisory group for the development of new PA legislation. We nominated Nadia Hadad, Jamie Bolling and Klaudija Poropat from our member, YHD in Slovenia. The work will take place in 2023.



In August, the UN OHCHR launched a consultation for a study on disability support systems. We provided detailed input on access to personal assistance and more generally independent living, based on the questions provided.

Also in August, WHO and UN OHCHR launched a call for input to their planned guidelines on mental health, human rights and legislation. We contributed jointly together with Transforming Communities for Inclusion (TCI), the Validity Foundation and Disability Rights International.

³² See: <https://enil.eu/visit-from-our-japanese-allies/>

Projects

In 2022, ENIL implemented a number of projects, with numerous activities taking place in parallel throughout the year.

Promoting Choice, Control and Participation for All Persons with Disabilities in Europe and Beyond – Choice4All 2022

This was ENIL's main project, which provided the organisation with funding for core expenses and the majority of activities set out in this report. The project was co-funded by the European Union (Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme – CERV), and our members ULOBA (Norway), STIL and GIL (Sweden).

Project website: <https://enil.eu/project/choice4all/>



TRIPS Project – Transport Innovation for Disabled People

TRIPS project was in its third (and final year), with the key activities being an online course on co-design and the Lecco Declaration. TRIPS stands for "Transport Innovation for Disabled People Needs Satisfaction". The project aims at making public transport more accessible for disabled people, older people and all passengers. This is done by using a co-design methodology, with full involvement of disabled people.

Project website: <https://trips-project.eu>

Promoting Personal Assistance in Turkey – PAKT

The PAKT project, implemented together with the Association of Women with Disabilities – ENKAD, ran until July 2022. In May, we met with the Deputy Minister for Social Work to discuss the launch of a pilot project on personal assistance in Turkey. A closing event took place at the European Parliament on 14 June to present the results from the project and to ensure that disability rights are given due weight in Turkey's EU accession.

Project website: <https://enil.eu/project/pakt-project/>





Partnership ENIL – Centre for Disability Studies at the University of Leeds

Kamil Goungor continued his secondment to the Centre for Disability Studies (CDS) at the University of Leeds, where he has been helping to develop an online degree in disability studies.

Project website: <https://enil.eu/project/leeds/>

Global Coalition on Deinstitutionalisation

ENIL was the Coordinator of the project funded by Disability Rights Fund, which supported the activities of the Global Coalition on Deinstitutionalisation starting in June 2022. The project was implemented in partnership with the International Disability Alliance, Inclusion International, Transforming Communities for Inclusion, Validity Foundation, Disability Rights International and the Centre for Human Rights at the University of Pretoria.

Project website: www.gc-di.org

Entrepreneurship for All – EntreAll

ENIL was a partner in the “Entrepreneurship for All – EntreAll” project, funded under Erasmus+. Activities focused on developing tools for disabled people who want to start their own business and coming up with recommendations on how to improve opportunities for self-employment led by disabled people.

Project website: <https://enil.eu/project/entreall/>



Access of Women to Family Planning Services in the EECA Region

The second phase of the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) project on access of disabled women to family planning services in the Eastern Europe and Central Asia (EECA) region was implemented in 2022. We worked with researchers in Ukraine and Armenia, who carried out a total of 120 interviews with disabled women, women victims of intimate partner violence, women with HIV and family planning services providers. Their views were incorporated into a final report.

Project website: <https://enil.eu/project/family-planning-project/>

Research

Independent Living Research Network (ILRN)

In view of the 50th Anniversary of the IL movement and the 10th Freedom Drive, we worked on a special issue on Independent Living in the International Journal of Disability and Social Justice (an open access journal). This was led by Dr. Teodor Mladenov, the coordinator of our Independent Living Research Network – ILRN.

The special issue was entitled “Independent Living in Europe and Beyond: Past, Present and Future”. In addition to 5 peer reviewed articles and 3 current issue articles, it included a series of 12 interviews with independent living activists around Europe.

A digest of the Special edition was published on 16 December³³. For more information about ILRN, visit the ENIL website³⁴.

Other initiatives

Our Co-Chair Nadad Hadad was a member of EA-SPD’s Task Force on the EU Framework for Social Services of Excellence. She was also, together with our ILRN coordinator Dr. Teodor Mladenov, on the advisory board of the EASPD’s UNIC Project, on personal budgets.

ENIL Director Ines Bulić Cojocariu acted as a senior expert for the European Disability Expertise (EDE) Network, and was an external reviewer for a series of country reports on the right to independent living in Europe.



33 See: <https://ijdsj.online/special-issues/special-issue-1-independent-living/>

34 See: <https://enil.eu/project/independent-living-research-network/>

Strategic Partnerships



European Disability Forum (EDF)

ENIL continued to be active in the European Disability Forum. Our Co-Chair Nadia Hadad was re-elected to the EDF Board and Executive Committee at the end of June, at the EDF Annual General Assembly. We also had new representatives elected to the Youth and Women's Committee's: Nina Portolan (from Serbia) became a member of the EDF Youth Committee, replacing Kamil Goungor, whose mandate ended in June. Elena Ratoi (Moldova) became a member of EDF's Women's Committee.

ENIL staff attended the EU NGO coordination meetings, organised by EDF, and we worked closely together on the review of the EU by the CRPD Committee. Nadia Hadad, as a member of EDF's Board and the Executive Committee, and representing ENIL, spoke at a number of important meetings and events:

- **16 February** – at the Global Disability Summit, moderating a side event “Looking forward to strengthened promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities affected by humanitarian emergencies”
- **28 March** – panellist at the event on mobility “Connecting people and places”
- **17 May** – panellist in the Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Weeks’ (HNPW) session on assistive technologies
- **24 May** – meeting with the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (with the UNDRR Director, Ricardo Mena)
- **21 June** – speaking and moderating at the University of Ireland Galway Disability Law Summer School
- **3 October** – speaking at the webinar “Towards an Inclusive Resilience: the full consideration of vulnerability before, during and after disaster”, organised by the Public Safety Communication Europe
- **10 November** – Sharm El-Sheikh Climate Change Conference (COP 27), moderating the side event organised by IDA and CBM Global, entitled “Disability rights and inclusion in the UNFCCC: Leaving nobody behind in an inter-constituency movement”
- **28 November** – speaking at the hearing in the European Parliament organised by the COVID Committee
- **11 December** – speaking at the Fourth Regional Conference of the Arab Forum of Women with Disabilities in Cairo, Egypt



European Expert Group on the Transition from Institutional to Community-based Care (EEG)

Our Co-Chair Nadia Hadad took over as the EEG Chair in March 2022. We worked actively during the year with EEG, on the following topics:

- A statement³⁵ on the European Semester Spring Package, published in March
- A second joint position³⁶ on the European Semester, published in October
- A statement³⁷ on the European Care Strategy
- A Position paper on Independent Living and Inclusion in the Community³⁸
- An analysis³⁹ of the national Recovery and Resilience (RRF) plans

In addition, we took part in four internal meetings and an open meeting with the European Commission on 15 November, where our partner organisations from Austria, Poland and Slovakia spoke about the (mis)use of EU Funds for the building of institutions.

Global Coalition on Deinstitutionalisation

We have worked together closely with the International Disability Alliance, Inclusion International,

Transforming Communities for Inclusion, Validity Foundation, Disability Rights International, the Centre for Human Rights at the University of Pretoria and Disability Rights Fund/Disability Rights Fund, as part of the Global Coalition on Deinstitutionalisation (GC-DI). We met on a weekly basis during the year and provided support to the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities with facilitating disabled people's input into the draft *Guidelines on deinstitutionalisation, including in Emergencies*. GC-DI worked together with Dr. Ciara Brennan, Tina Minkowitz, the Centre for Disability Law and Policy (CDLP) at the University of Galway in Ireland and the CRPD Committee Secretariat. We also took part in the sessions of the CRPD Committee in Geneva, where we had the opportunity to meet with members of the Committee and deliver statements.

World Independent Living Network (WIN)

Nadia Hadad, our Co-Chair, has been representing ENIL on the Board of WIN. Other representatives came from North America, Latin America and Asia-Pacific.

With the other WIN members, we organised a joint side event during the Global Disability Summit⁴⁰ on 16 February, and kept each other informed about developments in different parts of the world, when it comes to independent living.

35 See: <https://deinstitutionalisation.com/2022/03/15/deinstitutionalisation-should-remain-a-priority-for-eu-funding/>

36 See: <https://deinstitutionalisation.com/2022/10/14/eeg-regretes-to-see-a-lower-ambition-to-push-for-peoples-social-rights-in-the-2022-european-semester-process/>

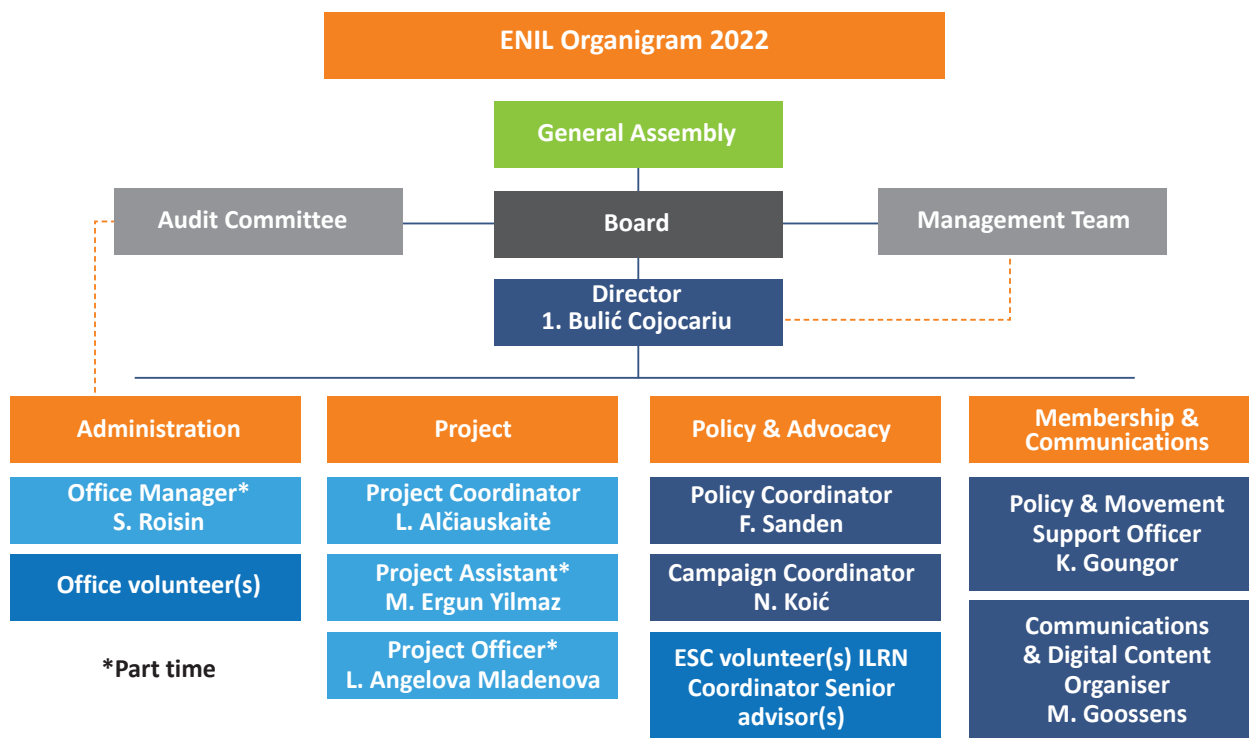
37 See: <https://deinstitutionalisation.com/2022/11/17/eeg-statement-on-the-european-care-strategy/>

38 See: <https://deinstitutionalisationdotcom.files.wordpress.com/2022/12/eu-guidance-on-independent-living-and-inclusion-in-the-community-2-1.pdf>

39 See: <https://deinstitutionalisation.com/2022/03/15/deinstitutionalisation-should-remain-a-priority-for-eu-funding/>

40 See: <https://www.globaldisabilitysummit.org/>

3. Our structure



Secretariat

Thanks to the Choice4All Project, co-funded by the European Union, we were able to expand our team by recruiting two new staff members and increasing one position to full time. We reviewed all job descriptions and titles and made some changes in order to support the implementation of the overall workplan.

Florian Sanden started as our new Policy Coordinator in April, based in Brussels. Melike Ergun Yilmaz, who joined as a volunteer in 2021, was recruited as an office assistant and to work on TRIPS and Entre All projects, until the end of the year.

The role of Michael Goossens changed from Human Rights Officer to Communications Officer and Digital Organiser, while the role of Kamil Goungor changed from Communications and Membership Development Officer to Policy and Movement Support Officer.

ENIL was given a 7-year Quality Label by JINT – the National agency for the European Solidarity Corps (ESC) – which will allow us to host ESC volunteers from 2022 onwards.

Governance

ENIL held its first online General Assembly (GA), on 15 October 2022 from 10:00 – 15:00 CET, with the bureau present in person in Brussels. During the General Assembly, elections for the Board took place using the Choice Voting platform.

Preparation for the GA and the Board elections started much earlier in the year, with the involvement of the Board and the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee worked throughout July and August to interview all candidates for the Board and to check their credentials, to make sure they comply with the criteria. The GA notice was sent to members on 2 September, in line with the Constitution.

There were 120 members registered to attend the online GA. As noted in the minutes, at the beginning of the GA, there were members from 31 countries present. This included 43 full individual (voting) members and 26 members representing organisations.

There were four Board members elected during the GA, for the period of 4 years: Jamie Bolling (Swe-

den), Radoš Keravica (Serbia/UK), Elena Kochoska (North Macedonia) and Ingrid Thunem (Norway). They joined the 5 Board members serving the second part of their term. We said goodbye to Armen Alaverdyan (Armenia), who was not re-elected.

The Nominating Committee was also elected, with the same members as during the previous term: Miro Griffiths (UK), Matilde Fuchs (France), Grega Fajdiga (Slovenia) and Vanya Pandieva (Bulgaria). Sadly, Vanya passed away in December.

In order to make the GA accessible, captioning and International Sign Language were provided throughout. In addition to formal proceedings, a pre-recorded speech by Bhargavi Davar, from Transforming Communities for Inclusion was shown, on the importance of grassroots activism and sharing her experience from India and working globally.

The Board had five online meetings, in March, June, September, October and December. A face to face Board meeting was held during the Freedom Drive. During the June meeting, the Financial and Annual reports for 2021 were approved, and during the December meeting, the Board adopted the Work plan and a budget for 2023.

The Management Team, composed of the two Co-chairs and the Director, met on a monthly basis. The Audit Committee, composed of the Office Manager, Jamie Bolling, Michael Holden, Patrick Wauters, and Dimitrios Karanastasis met three times – in March, June and November.

ENIL Youth Network

A key activity was the organisation the ENIL Youth Network General Assembly. The YGA was held online, on 4 November, from 18:00 – 20:00 CET, with the voting open for two days after to allow more members to vote. Six Board members were elected: Melike Bal (Turkey), Clementine Willow Doevendans (the Netherlands), Nicolas Joncour (France), Peadar O’Dea (Ireland), Nina Portolan (Serbia) and Charlie Willis (UK).

In April, the Youth Network submitted a proposal for a study session to the Council of Europe Youth Department. The proposal was approved, with the study session scheduled for June 2023.

At the same time, the 2022 study session took place from 13 – 18 June in Strasbourg, entitled “Sustainable Development Goals and Youth with Disabilities:

What We Can Do?”⁴¹. The study session brought together 12 young disabled people.

The meeting of the ENIL Youth Board and the ENIL Board took place in Brussels during the Freedom Drive, on 26 September. The majority of the Youth Board joined the Freedom Drive in person and played an active part in the event.

Membership

As of 1 June 2023, ENIL has 83 full organisational members and 30 associated organisational members. This means that we gained 4 new full members and 1 new associated member since June 2022. The full members which joined ENIL were the European Council of Autistic People z.s. (Czech Republic), Observatoire des Politiques du Handicap (France), Association of People with Mobility Problems “PER-PATO” (Greece) and Eginaren Eginez (Spain).

The number of full individual members (disabled people) is 658 and the number of associated members is 213. In addition, we have 358 Youth Network members. In comparison with the previous year, we have 75 new full individual members and 16 new associated members. The number of Youth Network members has fallen by 3, as a result of some members reaching the age of 36 and not being eligible for the Youth Network anymore.

As of June 2023, ENIL has members in all 27 EU Member States and 45 other countries – 38 European and 7 rest of the world.

The full list of members is available at the end of the report.

Funding

In 2022, we received core funding from the European Union (Choice4All Project), with our member in Norway, ULOBA, providing most of the co-funding through the ENIL Foundation. Additional co-funding was provided by our members in Sweden – STIL and GIL.

Other funders included the European Union – under Horizon 2020 and Erasmus+ – the East European Institute for Reproductive Health (family planning project), the Disability Rights Fund and the Council of Europe Youth Department (study session). In addition, we received funds under the Civil Society Support Programme (CSSP – III) for Turkey, funded by the EU, for the PAKT project. The Bente Skans-

41 See: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/youth/-/sustainable-development-goals-and-youth-with-disabilities-what-we-can-do>

gårds Independent Living Fund supported the development of ENIL's new website.

Funding for the Freedom Drive came mainly from the Choice4All Project (co-funded by the European Union, ULOBA, STIL and GIL) and ENIL Foundation, with additional funds provided by the GUE/NGL Group in the European Parliament, the City of Brussels and the Brussels Region/Equal Brussels. We also received an in-kind contribution from the Oslo Region European Office in Brussels and AccessLoo from Northern Ireland. Participant fees contributed to the overall budget for the event, which was high due to higher-than-expected venue costs, and an overall increase in the air fares and accommodation costs. In total, the cost of the Freedom Drive came to 91,237 EUR.

Communication

We increased our communication activities in 2022, with new visual and audio content, and a better presence on the social media.

Our new website was launched in May, designed by Bild Studio from Montenegro. Improvements to the website continued to be made throughout the year, and we especially focused on accessibility and adding content which may be useful to those who want to learn more about independent living and the related topics. This information has now been organised under Fact Sheets: <https://enil.eu/factsheets/>

Information about ENIL has also been made available in Easy to Read on the new website:

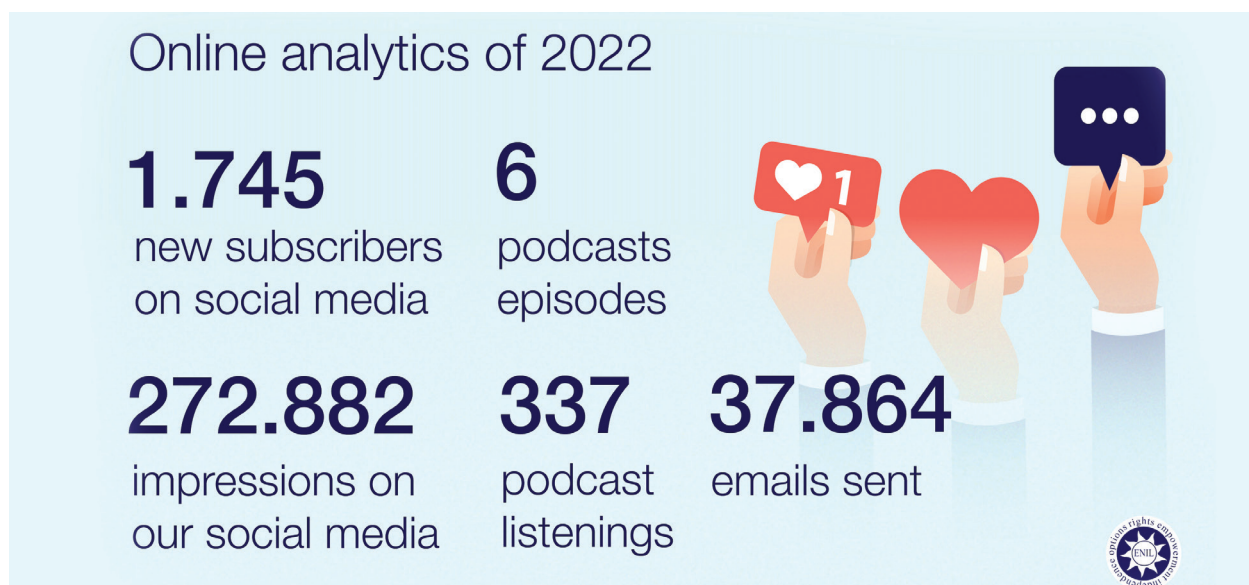
<https://enil.eu/about-enil/> (at the bottom of the page)

We ran two social media campaigns on deinstitutionalisation, at the beginning and end of the year. In cooperation with EDF, we developed a social media campaign to accompany the report on the use of EU funding globally. The campaign was launched on 7 March and continued throughout the month. Later in the year, in December, we ran another campaign on to accompany the European launch of the CRPD Committee Guidelines on deinstitutionalisation, including in Emergencies, in cooperation with the UN OHCHR Europe in Brussels.

During the year, we have been working on a podcast series featuring diverse voices in the independent living movement. The series is called "On Our Terms" and features six podcasts, which became available from the streaming sites in December. Aine Kelly-Costello, the journalist and disability activist from New Zealand has been hosting the podcast.

In addition to the podcasts, we recorded 12 interviews with independent living leaders from across Europe. They were published as part of a special issue on Independent Living⁴² in the International Journal of Disability and Social Justice.

We have continued sending monthly Members' Mailings, with updates about ENIL's work, information about events and calls to action. A total of 12 mailings were sent to all organisational and individual members via Mailchimp. A total of 12 online Newsletters have been published in 2022.



⁴² See: <https://ijdsj.online/special-issues/special-issue-1-independent-living/>

4. Membership

	Full members	Associated members
Albania		Albanian Disability Rights Foundation (ADRF) – www.adrf.org.al
		Together Foundation – https://www.facebook.com/sebashkufoundation/
Armenia	Skarp Inclusive Health Center NGO – www.skarp.am	
	Unison NGO for Support of People with Special Needs – www.unison.am	
Austria	BIZEPS-Zentrum für Selbstbestimmtes Leben (BIZEPS) – https://www.bizeps.or.at/	
	SLIÖ – Selbstbestimmt Leben Österreich (Independent Living Austria) – www.slioe.at	
Azerbaijan		Union of Disabled People Organisations of Azerbaijan – www.udpo.az
Belarus	Office for the Rights of People with Disabilities – www.disright.org *	
Belgium	AMT Concept asbl – www.handy.brussels	Fondation Shan – http://fondationshan.be
	GRIP vzw – www.gripvzw.be	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Bosnian Doctors for Disabled – https://bosniadoctorsfordisabled.ngo/	SUMERO – Union of organisations for support of people with intellectual disabilities – http://sumero.ba *
	Information center for persons with disabilities “Lotos” Tuzla – www.ic-lotos.org.ba	Association “Dajte nam šansu” – http://www.dajtenamsansu.org/ *
	Humanitarian Organization Partner – http://www.hopartner.org/ *	
Bulgaria	Centre for Independent Living Sofia (CIL-Sofia) – www.cil.bg	
Croatia	Croatian Union of Associations of Persons with Disabilities (SOIH) – www.soih.hr	
	Spinalne ozljede Zagreb (Spinal Injuries Zagreb) – www.soz.hr	
Cyprus	Cyprus Paraplegics Association – http://opak.org.cy/	
	European Social Forum (ESFC)	
Czech Republic	European Council of Autistic People z.s. – https://eucap.eu	
Denmark	LOBPA – Landsorganisationen Borgerstyret Personlig Assistance – www.lobpa.dk *	

	Full members	Associated members
Finland	Kynnys Ry (The threshold) – http://www.kynnys.fi/en/ *	
France	Association GRE A GRE – www.greagre.asso.fr	
	Alliance Autiste – http://allianceautiste.org/	
	CHA- Coordination Handicap et Autonomie – Vie Autonome France – http://coordination-handicap-autonomie.com	
	Observatoire des politiques du handicap – http://www.observatoirehandicapmonde.com/	
Georgia	Accessible Environment for Everyone – http://dpo.ge/en	
	Coalition for Independent Living – www.disability.ge	
	National Network of Women with Disabilities – www.wandr.ge	
Germany	Interessenvertretung Selbstbestimmt Leben in Deutschland e.V. (ISL E.V) – https://www.isl-ev.de/	
	Netzwerk für Inklusion, Teilhabe, Selbstbestimmung und Assistenz – NITSA – http://nitsa-ev.de/	
	Rhein-Main inklusiv e.v. – http://www.rhein-main-inklusive.de/	
Greece	Association of People with mobility problems ‘PERPATO’ – perpato.gr	
	i-living – Independent Living Organization of Greece – https://www.facebook.com/gr.iliving/	
	Paraplegicss’ Association of Drama – http://spnd.gr/	
Hungary	The National Federation of Associations of Persons with Physical Disabilities (“MEOSZ”) – www.meosz.hu	Validity Foundation – www.validity.ngo
Iceland	NPA miðstöðin – www.npa.is	
Ireland	Independent Living Movement Ireland (ILMI) – https://ilmi.ie/	Fionnathan Productions – www.fionnathan.com
	NCPD – The National Council for (the status) of People with Disabilities Company Limited by Guarantee – Galway.NCPD.ie	Irish Wheelchair Association – www.iwa.ie *

	Full members	Associated members
Italy	Agenzia per la Vita Indipendente Onlus (AVI ONLUS) – www.vitaindipendente.org	
	Associazione Vita Indipendente – www.avitoscana.org	
	Comitatio Lombardo per la Vita Indipendente delle Persone con Disabilitá – https://vitaindipendentelombardia.wordpress.com/	
	ENIL Italia – www.enil.it	
Lithuania	Independent Living Association – https://savarankiskasgyvenimas.lt/	
	Lithuanian Disability Forum – http://Inf.lt	
Luxembourg	Nemme Mat Eis asbl – www.nemmemateis.lu	
Malta	Commission for the Rights of Persons with Disability (CRPD) – www.crpdp.org.mt	Inspire (The Eden and Razzett Foundation) – http://www.inspire.org.mt/ *
	Malta Federation of Organisations Persons with Disability (MFOPD) – www.mfopd.org	Malta Association of Supported Employment
Montenegro	Association of Youth with Disabilities of Montenegro (UMHCG) – http://umhcg.com	
	Initiative of Youth with Disabilities of Boka – https://www.facebook.com/Inicijativa-mladih-s-invaliditetom-Boke-I-MI-Boke-111829123575190/	
North Macedonia	Polio Plus – Movement against disability – www.polioplus.org.mk	
Norway	Foreningen JAG – www.jagassistance.no	
	Uloba – Independent Living Norway – www.uloba.no	
Poland	Institute for Independent Living – www.niezaleznezycie.pl	The Sowelo Foundation (Fundacja Sowelo) – https://sowelo.net.pl/
	Disabled Human Rights Centre Poland – https://www.facebook.com/pages/Centrum-Praw-Os%C3%B3b-Niepe%C5%82nosprawnych/577383109057548?fref=nf	
	‘Stowarzyszenie Kobiet Niepełnosprawnych ‘ONE.pl’ (The Association of Women with Disabilities ‘ONE.pl’) – http://onepl.org.pl/	
Portugal	Centro de Vida Independente – www.vidaindependente.org	Caregivers Portugal – Associação Portuguesa de Cuidadores – https://www.caregiversportugal.pt/
Romania		Asociatia Magidream – www.dogtors.ro
		AEPADO – European Association for the Defense of Human Rights – www.aepado.ro *
		Ceva de Spus – www.cevadespus.ro

	Full members	Associated members
Russia		Kaliningrad regional public organization of disabled “Kovcheg” – http://39kovcheg.ru/
San Marino		Attiva – Mente – www.attiva-mente.info
Serbia	Center for Independent Living Serbia (CIL Serbia) – www.cilserbia.org	
	Center Living Upright – https://www.czuns.org/en/	
Slovakia	Organization of Muscular Dystrophy in the Slovak Republic – www.omdvsr.sk , www.osobnaasistencia.sk , www.belasymotyl.sk *	
Slovenia	Društvo za teorijo in kulturo Hendikepa (YHD) – www.yhd-drustvo.si	
Spain	Eginaren Eginez – www.eginez.org	
	Vigalicia (OVI Galicia) – www.vigalicia.org	
	Independent Living Federation of Spain (FEVI) – www.federacionvi.org	
Sweden	GIL – Individual Independent Living – www.gil.se	
	Independent Living Institute (ILI) – www.independentliving.org	
	JAG Association – www.jag.se/	
	Stiffarna av Independent Living i Sverige (STIL) – www.stil.se	
Switzerland	Selbstbestimmung.ch – http://selbstbestimmung.ch *	
Turkey	The Association of Women with Disabilities – http://engellikadin.org.tr/	Izmir City Council Disability Council
		Abled youth and sports club, Kocaeli
		Down Syndrome Association of Turkey – https://www.downturkiye.org/
United Kingdom	Alliance for Inclusive Education – https://www.allfie.org.uk/	Euro Youth Mental Health – https://euroyouthmhblog.wordpress.com/
	CIL Northern Ireland – www.cilni.org	musicALL – www.musicallscotland.uk
	Disabled People Against Cuts (DPAC) – www.dpac.uk.net	
	Disability Rights UK (DRUK) – www.disabilityrightsuk.org	
	Dudley CIL – http://www.dudleycil.uk/	
	Equal Lives – https://equallives.org.uk/	
	Glasgow Centre for Inclusive Living – www.gcil.org.uk	

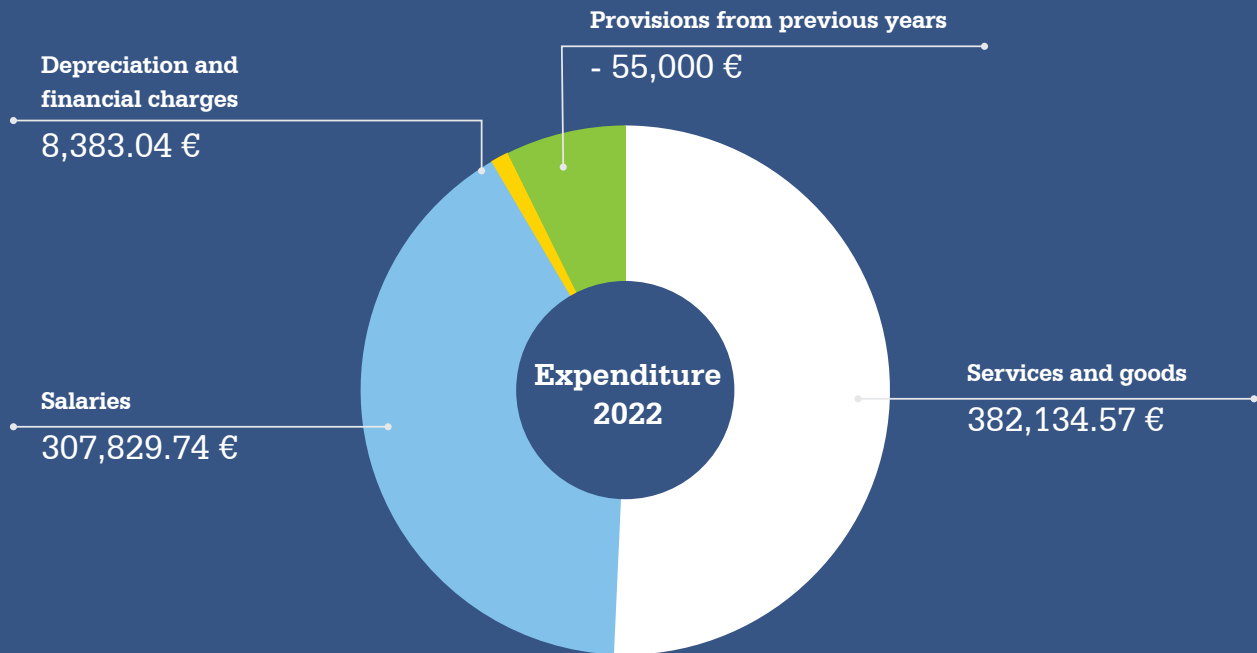
	Full members	Associated members
	Glasgow Disability Alliance – http://www.gda.scot/ *	
	Inclusion London – www.inclusionlondon.org.uk	
	Inclusion Scotland – www.inclusionscotland.org	
	Independent Living Alternatives – www.ILAnet.co.uk	
	Leeds Disabled People’s Organisation – https://www.facebook.com/LeedsDPO/	
	National Survivor User Network – https://www.nsun.org.uk	
	North Yorkshire Centre for Independent Living – www.nycil.org.uk	
	Reclaiming our Futures Alliance (ROFA) – www.rofa.org.uk	
	Self-Directed Support Scotland – http://www.sdsscotland.org.uk	
	SPECTRUM Centre for Independent Living – www.SpectrumCIL.co.uk	

Rest of the world

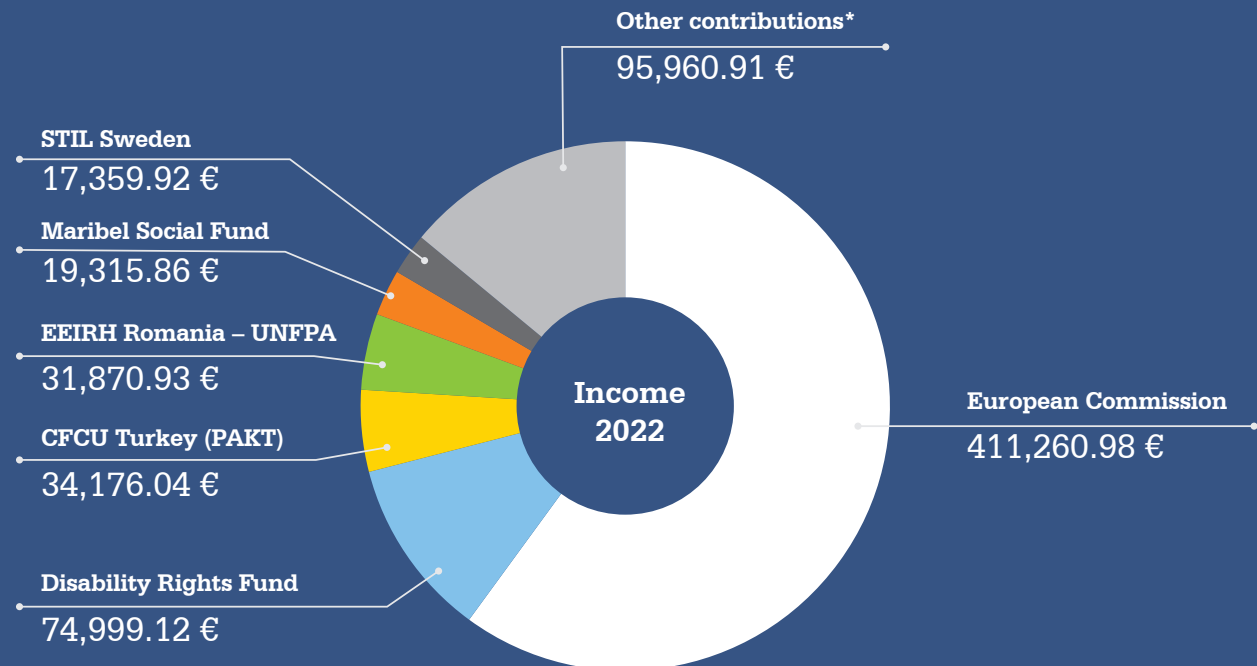
Country	Associated members
Bangladesh	Community Development Centre*
India	Abled Fitness Foundation
Israel	AlManarah – www.almanarah.org
Japan	Independent Living Center Arc Spectrum – http://arcsp.sakura.ne.jp/
Lebanon	Forum Of The Handicapped In North Lebanon – www.theforum-lb.org *
Nepal	Center for Independent Living of Persons with Disabilities, CIL-Kathmandu – http://www.cil.org.np
Nepal	KOSHISH National Mental Health Self-Help Organization – www.koshishnepal.org

5. Financial Report

Total expenditures for 2022 – 643,347.35 €



Total Income* – 684,943.76 €



The income does not show the donation of 125,000 € from ULOBA, Norway in 2022, since this was paid into the account of ENIL Foundation.

A total of 109,882.86 € from ENIL Foundation was spent in 2022 to cover the cost of ENIL's work.

	2020	2021	2022
Expenditure	450,362.06 €	343,068.00 €	643,347.35 €
Income	482,207.54 €	343,071.00 €	684,943.76 €

6. Our team

(January – December 2022)

Board members

Nadia Hadad (Co-Chair, Belgium)
Jamie Bolling (Co-Chair, Sweden)
Michael Holden (United Kingdom)
Radoš Keravica (Serbia)
Suela Lala (Albania)
Vibeke Marøy Melstrøm (Norway)
Tess van Deynse (Belgium)
Elena Kocoska (North Macedonia) (from October 2022)
Ingrid Thunem (Norway) (from October 2022)
Armen Alaverdyan (Armenia) (until October 2022)

Senior advisor (voluntary position)

Zara Todd (United Kingdom)

Staff

Ines Bulić Cojocariu, Director
Florian Sanden, Policy Coordinator (from April 2022)
Nataša Kokić, Campaign Coordinator
Kamil Goungor, Development Officer (part time)
Lilia Angelova Mladenova, Project Officer (part time)
Laura Alčiauskaitė, TRIPS Project Coordinator
Stanislas Roisin, Office Manager (part time)
Michael Goossens, Human Rights Officer
Melike Ergun Yilmaz, Project Assistant

Volunteers

Aine Kelly Costello
Frank Sioen
Dr. Teodor Mladenov (Independent Living Research Network)
Nic Crosby (European Coalition for Community Living)

We wish to thank our outgoing staff, all our volunteers and Board members for their contribution to our work. We are, as ever, grateful to our members – ULOBA, STIL and GIL – for their continued generous support of our work, as well as to other all other funders.

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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Website: www.enil.eu



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GIL

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