



GLOBAL DISABILITY SUMMIT FEBRUARY 16 - 17

GDS SIDE EVENT ORGANIZED BY THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION FOR SPINA BIFIDA AND HYDROCEPHALUS



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#GDS2022



Norwegian Ministry
of Foreign Affairs



Side event: Advancing Disability Rights Through Multidisciplinary Care

Organiser: International Federation for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus

Registration: <https://www.ifglobal.org/events/gds2022-side-event-advancing-disability-rights-through-multidisciplinary-care/>

Background:

Health is an enabler of inclusion and article 25 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) outlines the responsibilities of state parties to guarantee the right to health for persons with disabilities. Availability does not equal access and the design of these services plays a crucial role in the implementation of article 25. Persons with Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus (SBH) encounter numerous barriers in accessing health services. When specialised health services which

persons with SBH need specifically due to their disability (article 25(b)) are available they are often spread out over long distances (article 25(c)). Lack of coordination between different health services as well as lack of awareness by healthcare professionals and providers also hinders access to general health services, including sexual and mental health services (article 25(a) and 25(d)). All this accumulates to persons with SBH reporting that they experience that health services do not perceive them as complete individuals, but rather as a collection of separate health problems.

The International Federation for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus (IF) has been active on the topic of multidisciplinary care and the right to health for many years as it is a high priority concern for the SBH community. From its position as an organisation of persons with disabilities (OPD) IF advocates for a human rights based approach to health services and SBH.

Description of the event:

With diverse speakers the event will raise awareness of disability rights in the context of health services. At this event IF will present how integrated multidisciplinary care advances disability rights by promoting a person-centred and human rights-based approach to health services. Connecting the principles of article 25 with the design and provision of health services.

The human rights approach of this event is further entrenched by exploring the topic of health services from the perspective of persons with disabilities such as SBH as well as including speakers who will present on the issue from the perspective of policy and health services.

Objective:

The objective of the event is to raise awareness of the UNCRPD and article 25 and explore the topic of health services from the perspective of persons with disabilities. Understanding the different barriers persons with SBH face when accessing health services and how multidisciplinary care addresses those barriers. By doing so, exploring how to design health services in a way that advances and guarantees the right to health for persons with disabilities.

Session:

Wednesday February 16, 5PM CET

Moderator: *Dr. Sylvia Roozen, IF Secretary General*

- Word of welcome (Cato Lie; President International Federation for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus)
- Disability Inclusion in the Health Sector (Dr. Xanthe Hunt; WHO)
- Disability Rights in Health Policy (Stelios Kypourouopoulos; Member of the European Parliament)
- Person-Centered Care (Kevin Odonnell; Chair IF Working Group Ageing with SBH)
- Towards an inclusive policy model of health (Anđela Radovanović, IF youth member)
- Uniting forces towards inclusive health (Elena Zappoli; Chair RELAEBHI)
- Closing