

Good practices for access to justice of persons with disabilities

Executive summary

Just4All is a joint European project led by Fundación ONCE in partnership with the European Association of Service Providers for Persons with Disabilities (EASPD), the European Disability Forum (EDF), Thomson Reuters Aranzadi, and Universidad Carlos III de Madrid (UC3M). The aim is to promote access to justice of persons with disabilities through the training of legal practitioners.

This report compiles a range of inclusive practices by legal professionals across the European Union who aim to be accessible to persons with disabilities. It is divided into five sections:

- Access to Justice - Accessible communication, built environment, and first contact with the police.
- Litigation - Accessible practices when legal action is sought and/or undertaken.
- Support for offenders with disabilities - Support throughout the penitentiary system for offenders with disabilities.
- Specialised Knowledge- Learning tools for legal professionals to learn to make their practices more accessible.
- Disability Advocacy - Examples of advocacy which can be undertaken by legal professionals and in collaboration with national entities.

While this report highlights good practices, there appears to be a systemic failure in the provision of reasonable accommodation across member states (which is in breach of the CRPD) and little incentive for decision makers to provide already existing solutions to access justice. This results in a limited number of persons with disabilities being able to benefit from them. The practices in the report may be used as guidance for the coordination and allocation of resources to extend access to justice to persons with disabilities.

This work is a combination of submissions as part of the project, practices discussed at the seminars on 'Gaps in the training of legal practitioners' and 'Barriers of access to justice of persons with disabilities', and desktop research on inclusive practices for access to justice for persons with disabilities across the European Union.



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