

Advancing Inclusive and Evidence-Based Interventions for Autism in Europe

10 June 2025, 09:30 – 12:45 CEST

European Economic and Social Committee
Rue Van Maerlant/Van Maerlantstraat, Room VMA22

AGENDA

09:30 *Registration & Welcome Coffee and Tea*

10:00 **Introduction to the event**

- Benedetta Pesce, Projects and Events Officer, European Platform for Rehabilitation (EPR)

Opening remarks and welcome by the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)

- Marie Zvolska, Member, European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)

10:15 **Keynote speech – setting the scene**

- Aurélie Baranger, Director, Autism Europe

10:30 **Panel Discussion: What are the challenges in identifying evidence-based interventions for autistic people**

Followed by Q&A

- Valentina Paoli, Developmental Neuro and Psychomotricity Therapist; Board member of DIRimè Italia APS;
- Kerim Munir, Expert, Medical School of Medicine of Harvard University
- Vanessa Stizzoli, Speech therapist, DIRimè Italia APS and Istituto dei Sordi;
- Luis Salvador, International expert on Autism and Professor at the University of Canberra;
- Barbara Svevi, Psychologist-Psychotherapist and specialised in developmental neuropsychology;

11:00 **Autherapies project achievements and insights**

Project partners

- AUTHERAPIES: Why and how did we make it happen? (Rafael Martinez-Leal, Fundacion Villablanca)
- Interactive Database of evidence-based interventions for Autism. Try out! (Marta Fernandez, Open Europe)
- Training modules for healthcare professionals, autistic people and their family/caretakers (Silvia Doratiotto and Florian Gallo, IST Sordi di Torino)

Q&A

12:00 *Coffee Break*

12:20 Testimonials: Practical challenges, success stories and lessons learned

- Autistic people, family members and healthcare professionals who have undergone the AUTHERAPIES training modules and database

12:35 Future of healthcare for autistic people: Policy Recommendations

- Policy brief, Clara Beser, Policy Officer at European Platform for Rehabilitation (EPR)
- Scientific paper, Krzysztof Krysta, Professor at Medical University of Silesia and Rafael Martinez-Leal, project coordinator at Fundacion Villablanca

13:00 End of the event

Contact person: Benedetta Pesce, Projects and Events Officer, European Platform for Rehabilitation (EPR) at bpesce@epr.eu

Hybrid link: TBC

Project partners

