

# EPR EPSR Day Study Visit

## Independent Living; LADAPT programme PéVA®

16-17<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Paris & Chinon, France

### Objectives of the meeting

To raise awareness of the European Pillar of Social Rights (EPSR), learn from each other's good practices in specific areas, to discuss the challenges and potential solutions, including the role of government, funders and the EU, EPR organises EPR-European Pillar of Social Rights study days. This meeting will focus on independent living and will also discuss the implications of actions planned in the EU Disability Strategy and the UN Guidelines on deinstitutionalisation.

### Background

**The European Pillar of Social Rights** (EPSR, sometimes referred to as the "Social Pillar" or just the "Pillar") is a key social initiative launched by the European Commission in November 2017 aimed at improving the promotion and protection of social rights of EU residents. It is structured in 20 principles divided in three categories, referring to equal opportunities and access to labour market, fair working conditions and social protection and inclusion. The Pillar does not give the European Union more power or competencies but is designed to be a tool that promotes social rights with joint collaboration and responsibility of the European institutions together with Member States, civil society, social actors and social partners.

Services play a key role in the success of the Pillar. Many of those principles directly relate to the delivery of services, employment, education and rights of persons with disabilities. Affordable, quality, and accessible services are needed for the rights to become a reality in practice but also, service providers have a protagonist role ensuring these social rights are met for people in the EU.

### Independent living in the Pillar

*Principle 17. Inclusion of people with disabilities*

People with disabilities have the right to income support that ensures living in dignity, services that enable them to participate in the labour market and in society, and a work environment adapted to their needs.

### The European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan

On the 4<sup>th</sup> of March 2021, the European Commission launched the Action Plan. The Action Plan is aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals to take firm steps in the implementation of the 20 principles included in the Pillar. It presents three targets to be achieved by 2030: equal opportunities and access to the labour market, fair working conditions, and social protection and inclusion. The targets are accompanied by clear actions and deadlines. The Commission adopted together with the Action Plan a new Strategy on the rights of persons with disabilities for the period 2021-2030. The relevant section has:

#### 4.1. *Developing independent living and reinforcing community-based services*

*Persons with disabilities, old and young, have an equal right to live independently and be included in the community, with choices equal to those of others about their place of residence and with whom and how they live... Still, many persons with disabilities, adults and children, are segregated from community life and do not have control over their daily lives, in particular those living in institutions.*

*... All this requires reinforced action by the Member States and the Commission will support national, regional and local authorities in their efforts for deinstitutionalisation and independent living.*

**Flagship initiative:** The Commission will, by 2023, issue guidance recommending to Member States improvements on independent living and inclusion in the community, in order to enable persons with disabilities to live in accessible, supported housing in the community, or to continue living at home (including personal assistance schemes).

### The UN guidelines on de-institutionalisation

In September 2022 the UN published *Guidelines on deinstitutionalization, including in emergencies*, “intended to guide and support States parties, in their efforts to realize the right of persons with disabilities to live independently and be included in the community, and to be the basis for planning deinstitutionalization processes and prevention of institutionalization”. This will put pressure on member states to promote independent living in the community and move away from residential settings. It will have a strong influence on the above flagship initiative.

[The Position Paper of Social Services Europe ‘The Role of Social Services in the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights’ \(2018\)](#)

[The European Pillar of Social Rights and service delivery for persons with disabilities – EPR Analytical paper \(2017\)](#)

[The Action Plan <https://op.europa.eu/webpub/empl/european-pillar-of-social-rights/en/>](https://op.europa.eu/webpub/empl/european-pillar-of-social-rights/en/)

[Union of Equality: Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030](#)

[Guidelines on deinstitutionalization, including in emergencies \(2022\)](#)

## Agenda

### Wednesday 16th November

Morning: arrival of participants

Meeting at LADAPT’s headquarters, Tour ESSOR, 14 rue Scandicci, 93508, Paris

**14:00-16:00** Introduction to the Pillar, UN guidelines on deinstitutionalization; discussion of implications  
Exchange of experience and good practices in the field of independent living

**17:00-19:00** Travel together to Chinon by train

**20.00** Dinner in Chinon

### Thursday 17th November

**09:00-15:00 (Including lunch)** Visit of Péva®: presentation of the programme, group visits of facilities with discussions with the service users  
Debriefing and reflection on learning

### Practicalities



Flying to and from Paris is the best option.

Hotel booking recommended at the Ibis Styles Hotel Chinon here or on Booking:

<https://all.accor.com/hotel/7864/index.en.shtml>

EPR has subsidies of at least 160€ for each person to participate, please contact Laura Jones for further information.

Above: Royal Fortress of Chinon, part of the UNESCO World Heritage Site. Chinon is also known for its wine. To attend, please register [here](#) by 25<sup>th</sup> October. For more information, Laura Jones, [ljones@epr.eu](mailto:ljones@epr.eu)