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The European Platform for Rehabilitation

Intro & work on employment



Who is EPR?

Not-for-profit and public providers, some networks, all types of disabilities
25 members, 17 countries

Learning and Innovating Together

- EPR provides and facilitates valuable learning and development opportunities for members
- EPR equips members to address trends impacting service delivery
- EPR network of innovative organization grows
- EPR contributes to policy discussions based on members' expertise

Our fields of work

- VET, Vocational rehabilitation, skills
 - Employment support and integration
- Technology-based rehabilitation & inclusion
 - Digital transformation
 - Mental health
 - Independent living
- Young people
 - Organisational development

Needs assessment → work programme & matchmaking

Some additional reflections from EPR membes

- Partnerships with employers essential
 - Models presented later, Disability management
- Early intervention in return-to-work improves success
- (Long-term) on-the-job support
- Models to create employment – carving, inclusive job design
- Transitions are crucial
- Need to evaluate then facilitate evidence-based approaches – e.g. IPS
- Support social enterprises & transitions to other types of employment
- PWD to be taken into account in skills initiatives

How EPR supports employment of people with a disability

→ Awareness-raising & mutual learning

- In-person & online conferences *Today, Social Enterprise (in-person, ES, autumn)*
- Incubators *Employment*
- Taskforces *Digital Skills – teaching and learning online*
- Working groups *Disability Management*

→ Advocacy & partnerships

- Disability Strategy
- State Aid



Inclusive Labour Market Alliance



Joint Message to EU policymakers *Policy outcome of the Hearing on Employment*

The [European Association of Service providers for Persons with Disabilities \(EASPD\)](#), the [European Disability Forum \(EDF\)](#), the [European Network of Social Integration Enterprises \(ENSIE\)](#), the [European Platform for Rehabilitation \(EPR\)](#), the [European Union for Supported Employment \(EUSE\)](#) and [Workability International](#) join forces to call on the EU to act on the employment of persons with disabilities.

We call on the European Union to ensure that every citizen has the right to decent work in an open and inclusive labour market.

This must particularly apply to persons with support needs such as persons with disabilities who continue to be [heavily underrepresented in the workforce](#). The economic inclusion and effective support of persons with disabilities, have to be central to any sustainable development strategy.

In taking steps to give persons with support needs decent work the EU will be promoting:

- the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) as these give priority to including those who are left 'the farthest behind'.
- the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UN CRPD) and its vision of an inclusive labour market that actively includes and supports workers with disabilities.

Our Vision of Inclusive Market & Decent Work

An inclusive labour market requires a reversal of traditional assumptions that simply equates disability with an inability to work. Rather, future policy should be based on an assumption that all human beings have a capacity to engage in economic activity with the right kind of personalised supports for the workers and their employer. Indeed, the focus should shift from the disabilities to the abilities of the person concerned.

An inclusive labour market requires a renewed emphasis on personalised supports and tailored measures to

→ Projects



<https://transitaction.eu/>

Follow them on social media

- Toolkit online <https://knowledge.epr.equass.be/category/344-tips-on-how-to-write-a-successful-project>
- Training/Workshops with experts
- Support for project development, partner matching etc.

Analysis, Information,

- Analytical papers – *digital skills*
- Analysing & promoting good practices
Study & prize on return-to-work programmes
Studies on quality in VR, social economy

<https://www.epr.eu/publications>

Searchable database

www.knowledge.epr.equass.be/

and Trends in Vocational Rehabilitation for
Persons with Disabilities

COMPARATIVE REPORT AND COUNTRY CASE STUDIES



**EMPLOYMENT
MODELS WITHIN THE
SOCIAL ECONOMY**
AND THEIR ROLE IN INCLUDING PERSONS
WITH DISABILITIES INTO THE LABOUR
MARKET AND SOCIETY



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