



TO PROMOTE, TO IMPLEMENT, TO MONITOR

Article 33 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Best Practices – International seminar

Wednesday 21 May 2014

9.00–15.00

Parliament Annex (Pikkuparlamentti), Auditorium, Helsinki, Finland

Finland is in the final stages of ratifying the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The Finnish Human Rights Centre organises this seminar on the implementation, promotion, protection and monitoring of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The seminar is open for public, but preregistration is required.

The aim of the seminar is to discuss best practices with regard to the promotion of the Convention and its fulfilment, explore various examples of cooperation methods involving persons with disabilities and their representative organisations and to find out how a UN CRPD Committee member views the possibilities and effects of the Convention on the lives of persons with disabilities.

The seminar will be opened by the Minister for Foreign Affairs *Mr. Erkki Tuomioja* and Minister of Social Affairs and Health *Ms. Susanna Huovinen*. The Keynote speaker is *Mr. Stig Langvad*, Danish member of the UN CRPD Committee.

The seminar languages are Finnish and English. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided.

Mandatory registration at <http://crpd.eventbrite.com> before Sunday 18 May 2014.

WELCOME!



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UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

**Wednesday 21 May 2014
9.00-15.00**

- 8.45** Coffee
- 9.05** Welcoming words
Ms. Kristiina Kourou, director (FTA), Human Rights Centre
- 9.15** *Mr. Erkki Tuomioja, Minister for Foreign Affairs*
- 9.30** *Ms. Susanna Huovinen, Minister of Health and Social Services*
- Q&A
- 10.00** **To monitor - International monitoring**
- Work of the UN Committee of Persons with Disabilities
- Observations on the CRPD monitoring by the UN committee
Mr. Stig Langvad, Member of the UN CRPD Committee, via videolink
- Q&A
- 10.45** **To fulfil – Focal Points and Coordination mechanism**
- Structure and tasks of focal points
- Focal Points' activities - ideas for the Finnish model
Ms. Katja Fokin (Legal Officer, Ministry for Foreign Affairs)
- Establishment of a coordination mechanism
- Different sectors and levels of coordination
Ms. Sari Loijas (Secretary General, the National Council on Disability VANE)
- Involvement of persons with disabilities in the fulfilment of the Convention
- Practical ways of involving persons with disabilities on the local level
Ms. Reija Lampinen (Disability Ombudsman for City of Helsinki)
 - TBA
- Q&A



12.00–13.00 Lunch (individual arrangements)

13.00 To protect, promote, and monitor – Framework of independent mechanisms

To protect the persons with disabilities

- Rights of persons with disabilities in the work of the Parliamentary Ombudsman

Mr. Petri Jääskeläinen (Parliamentary Ombudsman, Finland)

To promote the Convention

- Counselling and increasing general knowledge – best practices

Ms. Maria Ventegodt Liisberg (Teamleader, Danish Institute for Human Rights)

To monitor the implementation of the Convention

- Monitoring activities - best practices

Ms. Christina Wurzinger (Deputy Chair of the Independent Monitoring Committee on the Implementation of the CRPD in Austria)

Full participation of civil society in the activities of the framework

- Work of the Human Rights Delegation's Disability Section

Mr. Kalle Könkkölä (Member of the Human Rights Delegation and its Disability Section, Finland)

Q&A

14.30 Concluding remarks

UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Article 33 - National implementation and monitoring

1. States Parties, in accordance with their system of organization, shall designate one or more **focal points** within government for matters relating to the implementation of the present Convention, and shall give due consideration to the establishment or designation of a **coordination mechanism** within government to facilitate related action in different sectors and at different levels.

2. States Parties shall, in accordance with their legal and administrative systems, maintain, strengthen, designate or establish within the State Party, a **framework**, including one or more independent mechanisms, as appropriate, to **promote, protect and monitor** implementation of the present Convention. When designating or establishing such a mechanism, States Parties shall take into account the principles relating to the status and functioning of national institutions for protection and promotion of human rights.

3. Civil society, in particular persons with disabilities and their representative organizations, shall be involved and participate fully in the monitoring process.