



**Conference of State Parties
on the Convention on the Rights
of Persons with Disabilities**

June 2017



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This easy to read document was produced by Robert Strike and Rachel Spencer from Council for Intellectual Disability for more information contact rachel@nswcid.org.au



Thank you to

- Australian Department of Social Services and Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- Australian Human Rights Commission
- Australian Federation of Disability Organisations, Disabled People's Organisations Australia and other Australian Civil Society representatives.

United Nations



The United Nations is an organisation made up of governments from 193 countries.

The **United Nations** is also called the **UN**.



The purpose of the UN is to create a world with peace and security.

Countries work together to get along and fix problems in the world.



The UN promotes respect for human rights and people's freedom.



The UN has special groups called agencies and runs big meetings about human rights.

Big issues at the UN



Big issues the UN deals with are

- Making the world safe and peaceful
- Stopping war and terrorism



- Making sure people get their human rights
- Helping people to have a good life



The UN also helps

- When there are emergencies and disasters



- Look after the environment

Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities



The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities protects and promotes the rights of people with disability.



The convention is an agreement between countries.

173 countries including Australia have agreed to this convention.



The convention does not give you more rights than other people.



Countries that sign the convention must make sure people with disability know their rights and get their rights.

Purpose of the convention



The purpose is to make sure you have the same rights and opportunities as others.

The convention says



- You must be respected
- You can make your own choices
- Discrimination is never OK
- Access is important
- Being included is important



The convention also says



- Men and women are equal
- We must not forget children with disabilities

What Australia has to do



Australian Government

The Australian government signed the convention in 2007.



In 2008 Australia **ratified** the convention.

This means the government must now stick to the agreement.



The Australian Government has to make sure new local laws match the convention.

The government must make life better for people with disability.



They must talk to people with disability about how to make things better.

Rights in the convention



You have the right to

- Be treated with respect
- To be safe and enjoy life
- Independence and choice
- Say what you want
- Be part of your community and do things you enjoy
- Vote and be a member of organisations



Right to services

You have the right to good health and health services.

You have the right to be able to use transport and get around.

You have the right to support if you have to go to court or deal with the law.



Rights in the convention

Right to a private life

Your information must be kept private.



You can get married and have relationships.

You can have children.

Right to understand

Information must be written in a way you can read and understand like this document.



Right to basic human needs

You have the right to

- Food
- Clothing
- Housing
- Help in emergencies



Responsibilities of each country



Every country that has agreed to the Convention must uphold the rights of people with disability.



The government should

- measure how well they protect people's rights
- involve people with disability in checking how well they are doing.



People with disability must be involved in protecting and promoting their rights.

Each country must write a report to the United Nations every **4 years**.



A committee reads the report and gives advice on how to protect and promote the rights of people with disability better.

Conference of State Parties



This conference is the biggest disability meeting in the world.



It helps us improve the human rights and inclusion of people with disability.



The Conference is for countries who have agreed to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.



People from government and people from Civil Society including people with disability attend.

COSP

The Conference of State Parties is called **COSP** for short.

Civil Society

Civil Society is made up of people and non-government organisations.

1. Disabled People's Organisations or DPOs

Run and led by people with disability and committed to human rights, who provide advocacy, information, peer support and training.



2. Representative Organisations for people with disability including advocacy organisations.

3. Other organisations involved in human rights and aid.

Civil Society has a big role at the Conference.

We must

- Represent people with disability
- Influence government
- Advocate and speak up about important things
- Build networks and make friends



The day before the conference is the **Civil Society Forum**.

This meeting helps us prepare for the conference.

Conference Theme 2017



Every year the conference has a theme.
This year the theme is
Inclusion and Participation.



It is about

- Making sure people with disability are involved in how the convention is used in their country.
- Ways people with disability can take part and be involved in their community.
- How Disabled People's Organisations and advocacy organisations can be involved.



3 areas the conference will focus on are

Subthemes

1. Multiple Discrimination
2. Humanitarian Action
3. Urban Development

Multiple Discrimination

Multiple discrimination is when people are treated badly because of their disability and other things like

- Being a woman
- Age
- Race or religion
- Political beliefs
- Being gay



This session at the conference will look at multiple discrimination of people with disability.

- How this effects people
- What we must do to stop it
- How we can work together

Effects

Discrimination can lead to poor education, unemployment and bad health and health services.

When people are discriminated against they are not fully included in their community.

What we want

- No discrimination
- Fair access to services
- People included and no one left behind



Multiple Discrimination

What we need

People to work together. Disability organisations need to work with mainstream services.

All government departments need to work on inclusion not just disability departments.

What countries must do

Countries are obliged to get rid of discrimination.

This means everyone must do something about it.



Countries must work together and work with international organisations like the UN.

There are groups that work on this including UN Partnership to Promote Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Governments must work with people with disability and their organisations.

In Australia the government must work with Disabled People's Organisations Australia and Council for Intellectual Disability.



The government must talk to and involve people with disability when making new laws or decisions that affect people with disability.

Humanitarian Action

Humanitarian Action is people and organisations helping in times of trouble like floods, fire, earthquakes and war.

The Convention says humanitarian action must make sure people with disability are supported in emergencies.



Barriers faced by people with disability increase in times of emergencies and war.

People with disability are

- Often left out
- More likely to die in a natural disaster
- May not know what help is available if information is not accessible

People with disability need the same assistance as other people and extra support around their disability.

People with disability must be involved in the design of programs and also in the delivery of programs.



There is a new law called **Charter on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action** that says everyone will work together and no one will be left behind.

Urban development

Urban development is about where people live and changes that happen to the area.

Urban development does not always include people with disability

- Places are not accessible
- Services are not inclusive
- Information is not accessible



The conference will focus on making it is easy for people with disability to get around and use services

- Improving access
- Information that is easy to read

The Convention says countries must make sure people with disability can access places, use transport and get information.

Countries must try to take away all barriers and create new ways to make things more accessible.

People with disability must be included in decisions about changes to places and information.



Inclusion for people with intellectual disability

Articles 4 and 33 of the Convention says governments must

- Involve people with disability and their organisations when making new laws to improve the rights of people with disability.
- Build skills of people with disability and their organisations.
- Include people with disability and organisations when checking how the government is doing in protecting and promoting rights.



Making inclusion real

For people with intellectual and other cognitive disability to be included in these processes they need

- Self-advocacy skills to be able to speak up and make choices
- Peer support opportunities and networks
- Information that is easy to read and understand



Articles 9, 21 and 26 of The Convention says these are **human rights**.

Council for Intellectual Disability Priorities

Areas we will focus on at COSP are



- Health and discrimination in health services
- Bullying, abuse and keeping people with disability safe
- Accessible information for inclusion
- Self-advocacy and peer networks

Robert Strike, Board Member



I want to learn good ideas about how to make things better for people with disability.

Share ideas about what works for people with intellectual disability in Australia.

I am there to learn things to bring back to CID and people with disability in Australia.

We can also teach them how to make things user friendly.

I want to meet people from other countries and just enjoy myself.



Words to know

Civil Society	People and organisations that are not from government.
Civil Society Forum	A meeting for people and organisations attending the conference. It is held the day before the conference starts and helps us get ready.
COSP	Conference of State Parties.
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
DPOs	Disabled People's Organisations.
Inclusion and Participation	Being included in making your own decisions and being part of your community.
Side events	Presentations that are separate to the main conference.
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals aim to end poverty and protect the planet. There are 17 goals.
Habitat III	World standards about how we build, manage and live in cities.
IDA	International Disability Alliance
DPI	Disabled People's International