



European Network on Independent Living (ENIL) –

European Parliament Elections Questionnaire

With the upcoming European Parliament elections (May 2015), it is vital that the candidates are aware of the pertinent issues affecting disabled people achieving Independent Living. Equally, eligible voters need to know what the candidates, in their Member States, intend to do to improve the inclusion of disabled people within society.

These questions, adapted from ENIL's Demands (see 2014 Manifesto), provide European Political Groups, Parties and even individual Candidates an opportunity to outline their intentions to support disabled people. Whilst responding to the questionnaire is not mandatory, we encourage all the relevant people to participate and demonstrate their commitment to promoting the rights and demands of all disabled people, from across Europe, at the European Parliament.

ENIL will publish all responses to the Questionnaire on our European Parliament Elections webpage <www.enil.eu> and will not advocate or endorse specific Parties, Groups or Candidates.

Please contact us if we can be of any assistance with disseminating the completed questionnaires or supporting disabled people and their allies with matters related to the upcoming European Parliament Elections.



Budgethoudersvereniging met een droom



Център за независим живот



ULOBA



Implemented in the framework of the project "Proud, Strong and Visible – Promoting the Choice, Control and Participation of Disabled People in Europe", supported by the European Commission 2014 Action Grant and by ULOBA, Norway.

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European Parliament Elections Questions:

Name:	
Country:	
Political Group:	
Political Party:	

<u>Questions and Answers</u>	
Q1	As outlined in Article 19 (Independent Living) of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD), how will you ensure that disabled people have the right to live independently and be an integral member of their community? Furthermore, what will you do to ensure that disabled people are aware of the UNCRPD and that their rights are being upheld?
A1	
Q2	What is your opinion on having a specific Commissioner for Disability Issues within the European Parliament, and what are the pertinent issues the Commissioner should be working on?
A2	
Q3	Too often, terminology such as, but not limited to: 'Deinstitutionalisation' and 'Community-Based Support' becomes hijacked by those in decision-making positions and their meanings are altered. What will you do to ensure terminology associated with disability and Independent Living, which is defined by the Independent Living Movement, becomes embedded within policies and reflected in societal attitudes?
A3	
Q4	How will you support Centres for Independent Living (CILs) and Disabled People's Organisations (DPOs i.e. Organisations run <i>by</i> disabled people <i>for</i> disabled people) to use European Structural and Investment Funds to support Personal Assistance schemes? Furthermore, how will you ensure the funding is made available and that CiLs and DPOs have a realistic chance of securing the funding?



A4	
Q5	What is your view on European Union funds being invested into institutions for disabled people and what will you do to ensure that the Structural Funds are not –directly or indirectly – invested into schemes/services, all of which, continue to isolate, exclude and deny disabled people from accessing their rights?
A5	
Q6	How will you support local and national non-governmental organisations, led by disabled people, to access more funding to ensure their work is sustainable and has a legacy?
A6	
Q7	In your view, what impact are the cuts in services and benefits having on disabled people and, considering that DPOs across Europe are calling for the cuts to stop and be reversed, what will you do?
A7	
Q8	How will you ensure disabled people have continual access to mainstream services (such as, but not limited to: meaningful employment, education, transport etc.), instead of being coerced into experiencing or using segregated services?
A8	
Q9	What are your thoughts on the current level of discrimination and hate crime that disabled people are subjected to on a daily basis? Furthermore, how can the protection of disabled people be strengthened at the European level, in order to eliminate discrimination?
A9	



Q10	In your opinion, what are the barriers preventing disabled people accessing an inclusive education and how can you ensure it becomes a reality for all disabled people, particularly children and young people?
A10	

ENIL, 2014



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