

The role of organisations of persons with disabilities (DPOs) in the implementation and monitoring of the CRPD

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DPO impact in the negotiation of the CRPD

- The CRPD would not be the way it is without the active participation of DPOs
- «Nothing about us without us» served as a reminder that no longer the definition of policies is possible without the active involvement of persons with disabilities and their organisations
- Set an important precedent for civil society participation in the negotiation of a human rights treaty

Some examples of impact

- The most innovative elements of the CRPD were promoted by the organisations of persons with disabilities:
 - Article 12 Equal recognition before the law
 - Article 14 Liberty and security of persons
 - Article 19 Living independently and being included in the community
- No limitations, no exceptions

References in the CRPD

- The involvement of organisations of persons with disabilities in the implementation of the CRPD (article 4)
- Including children with disabilities
- Specific reference also in the article 33 on national implementation and monitoring
- Civil society in general, but recognition of special role of organisations of persons with disabilities
- Article 29 on political participation

Impact of the CRPD on DPOs

- DPOs were not considered and usually did not consider themselves as human rights organisations
- Were unfamiliar with human rights monitoring mechanisms (very few had used other human rights treaties)
- Some issues were not on the agenda of most DPOs
- Being able to effectively contribute to the implementation and monitoring of the CRPD requires building of capacities

Role in implementation at national level

- Participation in revision of specific and mainstream legislation and policies to be adapted to the CRPD
- Participation in the Government coordination mechanisms which usually need to be revised
- Influencing international cooperation to ensure it is disability inclusive
- Show the way especially in the most innovative areas
- Awareness raising and training of professionals

Role in monitoring at national and at international level

- Active involvement in the national monitoring process
- Involvement in the international monitoring process, in particular through the preparation of parallel reports
- Acquire capacity to influence the work of the UN Treaty Bodies, not just the CRPD Committee, but also CEDAW, CESCR, Human Rights Committee, CAT and CRC.
- Participation in the Universal Periodic Review process (disability on the human rights agenda)
- Work with national human rights institutions
- Build alliances with other human rights organisations