



What did people with an intellectual disability or a psychosocial disability say about the courts?

Easy to read



Who prepared this document?



MENTAL
HEALTH
PERSPECTIVES

We are an organization.

The name of our organization is
Mental Health Perspectives.



We work to:

- help people with disabilities,
- research how to help people,
- help to reduce discrimination.

To reduce discrimination is to help
people treat other people like equal.



Discrimination happens when a person
is treated badly by other people.

For example,
because a person has a disability.



What are we currently doing?

We are part of the ENABLE project.

ENABLE means to help people.

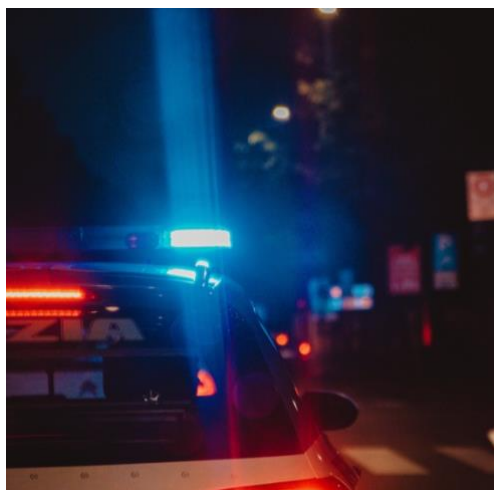
For example, to help people with a disability to go to court.



We recently did a research study.

Research study means that we talked to people with disabilities, who had to go to court.

Why did we talk with people with disabilities?



People with disabilities sometimes go to court.

For example, when the police:

- says that the person did something bad,
- asks a person with a disability to tell about another person, who committed the crime.



Going to court can be difficult for people.
For example, in court, people may feel:

- fear,
- stress,
- anger.

The law must treat all people equally.

All people have the right to go to court.



We spoke with people with disabilities
who visited the court to find out:

- how these people felt,
- if people understood what was
happening in the court,
- why people felt the way they felt.

What persons with disabilities said about their lawyers?



When a person breaks the law, a lawyer goes to court with that person.

A lawyer is someone who knows the law very well.

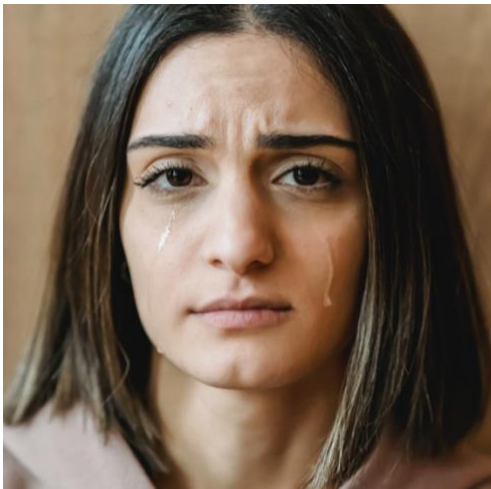
A lawyer is there to help people who need help because they go to the court.



People with disabilities told us that:

- it was difficult to talk to their lawyer,
- it was difficult to call their lawyer,
- people have not seen their lawyer,
- they did not know who their lawyer was,
- the lawyer could not help in the court.

What people with disabilities said about going to the court?



People with disabilities told us that:

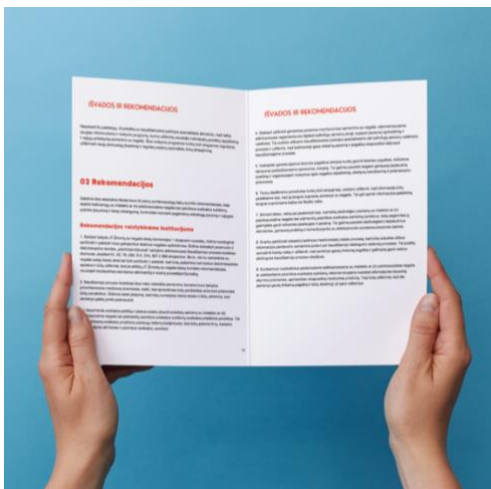
- the court did not know about their needs,
- it was difficult to speak in the court,
- people did not know what to do in the court,
- people did not know what will happen when the trial is over.

What will we do next?

We wrote guidelines:

- for people working in the court,
- for lawyers,
- for the police,
- for the government.

People in the government work to make things in Lithuania better for people with disabilities.



Guidelines is a document that says:

- what people with disabilities said,
- what needs to be done better.



For example,

our guidelines says that the courts should:

- speak in easy-to-understand language,
- explain information with pictures,
- allow people to ask questions,
- invite other people to speak.

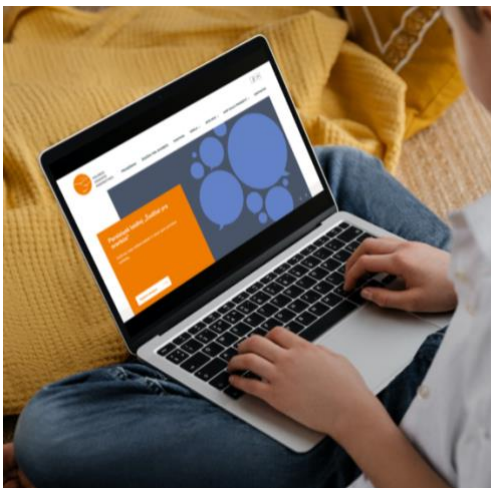
We will give training

for people working in the court.

For example, training about how

to better help people with disabilities to

understand what is happening in the court.



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www.unfold.com

www.pexels.com/photo

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Full project information is available on: <https://perspektyvos.org/en/project/enabling-inclusion-and-access-to-justice-for-defendants-with-intellectual-and-or-psychosocial-disabilities>