

Summary of ENABLE national report in easy-to-read language - Slovenia

What is the ENABLE project?

ENABLE is a project, which campaigns for easier and fairer inclusion of defendants with intellectual and psychosocial disabilities in the Court of Justice.



Defendants are persons, who are accused of breaking the law. Persons with intellectual and psychosocial disabilities are also called **persons with disabilities**.

In the ENABLE project we want to ensure that defendants with disabilities in the Court of Justice enjoy equal rights, as other people.



This summary represents what happens to people with disabilities in Court in Slovenia.



Who worked on the project?

In Slovenia, the project was done by PIC.

PIC is a legal centre,
that works for the protection of human rights.
PIC also wrote this text.



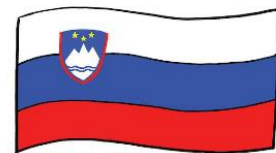
The project was also done in other European countries:
Romania, Portugal, the Czech Republic, Slovakia,
Bulgaria, Spain, Lithuania.

What did we do?

We searched for information
and spoke to different people.

We spoke to **experts**
and also with **people with disabilities**.

The report says,
what happens in the Court of Justice
in Slovenia.



The report also says,
what the barriers are.

The report says what could be done better.

Some of the barriers for people with disabilities are:

- they don't understand the information,
- the information is not written in easy-to-read
- they do not know their rights,
- they do not get enough support from the beginning to the end of the court case
- the lawyer often does not know what the problems are or what the person with a disability needs.



There are some good things about what happens in the Court of Justice:

- Public events and programmes on the situation of people with disabilities.
- These programmes are organized by associations, working with people with disabilities.



- **The Ombudsman also organizes programmes.**

The Ombudsman is the person that protects the human rights of people living in Slovenia.



- Slovenia has an **Action plan for persons with disabilities.**

The Action plan for persons with disabilities protects the rights of people with disabilities.

- Two people with disabilities said, they were happy with what happens with criminal court cases criminal procedure. This means, their rights were respected in the court.



How can we make court cases better for people with disabilities?

- We have to improve **the list of accommodations** in the law.

That means that we can add new things that will help people with disabilities to the law.



- We could make a special programme for people with disabilities.

This means that people would not go to prison.



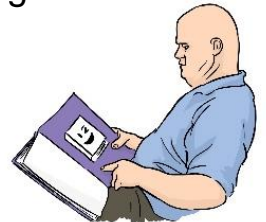
**The experts in the project said,
that the most helpful things to do
to support people with disabilities in the court are to:**

- work with defendants one-to-one
This means, to give them the time and support they need.



- have **a list of accommodations.**
They can see all the options in the list.
People with disabilities can find out,
what their rights are during the court case

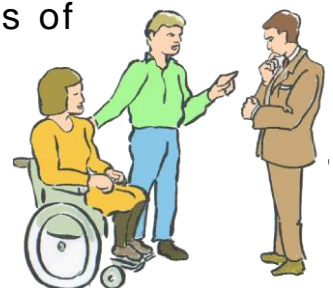
- always have information in easy-to-read language.
The information must be accessible
during the court case
in a language they can read and understand.
This makes it easier for people with disabilities
to take part in court.



What are the results of the ENABLE project?

**To support people with disabilities
to take part in court, we need to:**

- train professionals on how to protect the rights of
people with disabilities,



- make a list of advocates, who know about the rights and problems of people with disabilities.
- include people with disabilities in conversations. We need to listen to what they need and take it on board.
- They need to be involved in writing the Slovenian Action Plan for persons with disabilities.

The project is coordinated by the international organisation **Validity Foundation**.

More information

The project follows international and EU standards for people with disabilities to access justice. Some information in easy-to-read language is available at the links:

- [Convention on the Rights of people with disabilities](#) – an easy-to-read guide to the Convention in Slovenian (4, 5, 9, 12, 13),
- [Guide to the rights of people with disabilities](#) – easy-to-read and easy-to-understand format in Slovenian
- [International Principles and Guidelines on Access to Justice for Persons with Disabilities](#),



- [European Union Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030.](#)

Other information about the project

The ENABLE project started in September 2022.

The ENABLE project will end in August 2024.

The project number is 101056701.

Enabling inclusion and access to justice for defendants with intellectual and psychosocial disabilities (101056701 - ENABLE - JUST-2021-JACC).



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