

SUMMARY

01

News from EDSA

Letter of the new EDSA
President

02

News from project proposals submitted

“On my own at work”
project

News from european programmes

Erasmus Plus

03

News from european programmes

Europe for Citizens

04

Newsletter’s survey

05

Interview to the President

“discit - making persons
with disabilities full
citizens”

Contacts

NEWS FROM EDSA

New EDSA Board

EDSA Annual General Assembly (AGA) took place at the premises of Down España in Madrid, from 17th to 19th October 2014. Representatives of 19 Ds-organisations from 16 European countries have attended the meeting. A new **EDSA Board** has been elected by the general assembly. The new board will be in office until 2017.



Members of the new board (from left): Pat Clarke, Isidro Moyano, Cécile Dupas, Tania Mykhailenko, Lars Erik Brustad, Anna Contardi, Manuel Velázquez, Cora Halder, Dinka Vukovic, Fulya Ekmen. (not in the photo: Frank Buckley)

LETTER OF THE NEW EDSA PRESIDENT

To EDSA members

As you know, the last October 18th AGA elected the new board and me as President.

This assignment is an honor for me and for my association and I would like to thank once more all those who have trusted me. At the same time, I want also to thank Cora Halder for her Presidency and for her availability to remain and collaborate within the board.

Today EDSA is a growing reality: 28 countries from North to South, from East to West. Its strength is just in the variety of experience and skills of its members and of the joint objective to cooperate for a better and inclusive future of people with Down syndrome. We must make the most of the resources of each Edsa member and make them become resources of everyone.

This is the reason why while we shall meet in December with the board in order to plan our future work, I kindly ask you all an effort to

know and to make yourselves known. To ask for and to offer should be the meaning of our being together. Make people with DS, experts, expertise circulating. I count on you!

And I would like to end my greeting with one of Helder Camara's sentences: "When we are dreaming alone it is only a DREAM. When we are dreaming with others, the dream becomes reality".

Greetings to everybody

*Anna Contardi
President*

NEWS FROM PROJECT PROPOSALS SUBMITTED

"ON MY OWN AT WORK" PROJECT

We are very glad to inform that the project submitted by AIPD under the EU programme Erasmus Plus in the strand KA2 - strategic partnership has been selected for financing.

The project aims to promote the right to work of people with intellectual disabilities, through internships in hotels and restaurants.

Among its partners : APPT21 and EDSA itself.

The project started the 1st of September and will last for 36 months. The progress of the project will be shared with the other Edsa members.

NEWS FROM EUROPEAN PROGRAMMES

New programme guide and next deadlines!

ERASMUS PLUS

The conditions for participation in 2015 are described in the latest version of the 2015 Erasmus Programme Guide

please use the following link to download it:

http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/discover/guide/index_en.htm

Deadlines for submission of applications

All deadlines for submission of applications specified below end at 12.00 (noon), Brussels time.

Key Action 1

Mobility of individuals in the field of youth	4 February 2015
Mobility of individuals in the field of education and training	4 March 2015
Mobility of individuals in the field of youth	30 April 2015
Mobility of individuals in the field of youth	1 October 2015
Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees	4 March 2015
Large scale European Voluntary Service events	3 April 2015

Key Action 2

Strategic partnerships in the field of youth	4 February 2015
Strategic partnerships in the field of education, training and youth	30 April 2015
Strategic partnerships in the field of youth	1 October 2015
Knowledge Alliances, Sector Skills Alliances	26 February 2015
Capacity building in the field of higher education	10 February 2015
Capacity building in the field of youth	3 April 2015 2 September 2015

Key Action 3

Meeting between young people and decision-makers in the field of youth	4 February 2015 30 April 2015 1 October 2015
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Jean Monnet actions

Chairs, Modules, Centres of Excellence, Support to Institutions and Associations, Networks, Projects	26 February 2015
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Sport actions

Collaborative partnerships in the sport field related to the European Week of Sport 2015 only	22 January 2015
Collaborative partnerships in the sport field not related to the European Week of Sport 2015	14 May 2015
Not-for-profit European sport events related to the European Week of Sport 2015 only	22 January 2015
Not-for-profit European sport events not related to the European Week of Sport 2015	14 May 2015

Organisations are invited to submit applications on-line to the National Agency in the relevant country or to the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA).

The 2015 on-line application forms and related documents are currently being prepared and will be available on websites of either the National Agencies

http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/tools/national-agencies/index_en.htm

or the Education Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/index_en.php

EUROPE FOR CITIZENS

The programme "Europe for Citizens", which applies for the whole duration of the Programme 2014 - 2020, intends to guide all interested persons through the different aspects of the programme.

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/europe-for-citizens_en

Action 1 European remembrance

- 01/03/2015 12:00 (CET/CEST)

Action 2 Democratic engagement and civic participation

- Network of towns 01/03/2015 12:00 (CET/CEST)

- Town twinning 01/03/2015 12:00 (CET/CEST)

- Civil society projects 01/03/2015 12:00 (CET/CEST)
- Network of towns 01/09/2015 12:00 (CET/CEST)
- Town twinning 01/09/2015 12:00 (CET/CEST)

NEWSLETTER'S SURVEY

In order to investigate about usefulness of this newsletter and satisfaction of its readers, we have asked Edsa members to take part in a survey, whose deadline was established on the **30th of September 2014**. Results were presented and discussed during the last AGA in Madrid.

What about the newsletter

7 newsletters have been issued over this first year. 8 EDSA members have sent their contributions (articles, news, photos). The newsletter has been sent to the EDSA mailing list and to 20 professionals, who had attended the AIPD training course on project design, in October 2013.

Survey results

AIPD has received 12 evaluation forms of the newsletter. According to the evaluations received, the newsletter has been welcome and appreciated! According to all the "evaluators", the newsletter both was a useful tool and should go on in the future. In addition to the options proposed by the survey, it seems that the newsletter could represent an effective link among EDSA members, also in order to look for new projects ideas and to find new project partners. Better graphic design and improved contents are required for next newsletters. Help us, please in improving contents. Send us news and resources from your country. We hope that more than 8 organisations out of 34 EDSA members will contribute to the newsletter. Newsletter. Survey results in details:

QUESTION	YES	NO
Is it a useful tool?	12	0
Have you actively collaborated?	3	9
Should the Newsletter go on in the future?	12	0

QUESTIONS	OPTION 1	OPTION 2	OPTION 3	OPTION 4
More useful for?	sharing news 8	promoting good ideas and projects 8	receiving info and news about EU programmes 8	others: Being in contact 2 Looking for projects idea and partners 1
What would you improve?	structure 1	contents 5	graphic design 6	others
Proposals for next issues.....	"President words"	Graphic designer's format	EDSA members introduce themselves	Interviews

INTERVIEW TO THE PRESIDENT

“DISCIT - making persons with disabilities full citizens”

Anna Contardi, as EDSA President, was contacted by EU Framework 7 research consortium DISCIT in order to be interviewed on the role of European Disabled People’s Organisations in processes of deliberation, decision and implementation of disability policy at the European level and with special regard to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UN-CRPD).

The research consortium DISCIT aims to produce new knowledge enabling member states, affiliated European countries and the European Union to achieve full and effective participation of persons with disabilities in society, policy making and the economy.

One main feature of DISCIT is close collaboration with Disabled People’s Organisations on different levels throughout the whole project (www.discit.eu).

Expert interviews are focused on the Internationalisation of Disability Politics.

MAKE THIS NEWSLETTER REALLY YOURS!

Have you got any news that we could publish in EDSA newsletter? Please send us any information you would like to announce and we shall be happy to disseminate it all over Europe!

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NEWSLETTER BY



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