



World Down Syndrome Day Program 2024

21st March 2024

Spinelli 1H1, European Parliament

Program / Sequence of Events

10:30 Greetings and welcome speech

10:35 Presentation of work of the European Down Syndrome Association (EDSA)

Speaker: Ms Dinka Vuković, President of EDSA

10:50 Self-Advocacy of Individuals with Trisomy 21 in Europe

Reflection on the work of the European Down Syndrome Association (EDSA).

Speaker: Mr José Gutiérrez Caballero, Vice-President of EDSA

11:10 Auto-Determination and Decision-Making of Individuals with Trisomy 21

Sharing good practices of individuals with Trisomy 21 who can actively participate in democratic life.

Speaker: Ms Mel Galcerán and Ms Andrea Halder – members of the EDSA

11:30 Democratic Life of Individuals with Trisomy 21

How can EP ensure a better representation of individuals with Trisomy 21 in both politics and society requires exploring current and future legislative projects that could improve the chances of individuals with Trisomy 21 to advocate for themselves effectively.

Speaker: MEP Alex Agius Saliba, S&D

11.40 Ensuring Voting Rights for Individuals with Trisomy 21

Reflect on the upcoming elections and the right of people with Trisomy 21 to vote. Discuss the importance of making political processes, such as voting, campaigning, and accessing information, accessible to individuals with various disabilities through accommodations such as easy-to-read materials, sign language interpreters, and accessible polling stations.

Speaker: MEP Patryk Jaki, ECR

11.50 Strategy for the Rights of People with Disabilities

Sharing the European Commission's efforts to promote the political participation of people with disabilities.

Speaker: Ms Anna Kedziorek Ramirez, Policy Officer, Disability and Social Inclusion, Directorate General for Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion

12:10 Individuals with Trisomy 21 and its future: What can we do?

Open panel with the audience and the speakers: Questions and answers

12:30 Closing