EUROPEAN UNION OF THE DEAF

Based in Brussels, Belgium, EUD, the European Union of the Deaf, is a not-for-profit European non-governmental organisation (ENGO) comprising National Associations of the Deaf (NADs). It is the only supranational organisation representing Deaf sign language users at European Union level and is one of the few ENGOs representing associations in all 28 EU Member States, including Iceland, Norway, and Switzerland. EU candidate countries, such as Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, or Turkey, are affiliated members with the option to become full members as soon as they officially enter the EU.

Aiming to establish and maintain EU level dialogue with all European Union institutions and officials, as well as the European United Nations offices and representations, in consultation and co-operation with its member NADs, it also has participatory status with the Council of Europe (CoE). EUD is a full member of the European Disability Forum (EDF) and is a Regional Co-operating Partner of the World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) to tackle issues of global importance.

MISSION STATEMENT

To promote, advance, and protect the rights of and opportunities for Deaf people (including sign language users) in the European Union is the core mission of EUD. It is EUD’s aim to achieve equality in both public and private life for Deaf people all over Europe to ensure they can become full citizens in their own right. In order to achieve this, EUD has laid out three main long-term objectives, following the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities:

1. Recognition of the right to use an indigenous sign language;
2. Empowerment through communication and information; and
As the only recently elected EUD President I am indebted to my predecessor Berglind Stefánsdóttir and her Board, as well as the staff, who I must credit for the current report and the large number of results. I am very pleased to be presenting the 2013 report on the situation of the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) in the EUD member countries.

The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) is the single most important mechanism for all Deaf sign language users across the world to ensure their inherent human rights are protected and equally recognised by all governments, including the European Union legislative instruments. With the EU’s ratification of the Convention, the EU has a legal obligation to implement its provisions.

This first accessible UNCRPD survey will serve as a basis for EUD’s input in the European-level parallel report that will be led by the European Disability Forum (EDF), of which EUD is a full member. I am proud to be present at the launch at the European Parliament in Brussels on 27 November under the patronage of MEP Jutta Steinruck and with representatives from the UN, the European Commission, as well as the President of the Disability Intergroup, Dr Ádám Kósa and hope you will find this publication useful in your work with the UNCRPD.

Dr Markku Jokinen
EUD President
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The present report gives a concise and balanced overview of the EUD survey carried out in 2012 covering relevant areas of the UNCRPD and analysing the implementation in EU Member States, as well as at EU level. Almost all EUD member associations answered, as well as individuals from a vast majority of EU countries. Topics ranged from sign language interpreter provision to emergency service access and voting rights. The survey report will serve as a tool for European-level implementation of the UNCRPD as well as national and regional implementation measures. EUD aims to give its members and other organisations concerned with the UNCRPD an insight into the reality of Deaf sign language users all across Europe to showcase the need for continuous and accessible changes in promoting the rights proclaimed in the UNCRPD.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The UNCRPD survey was a project jointly carried out by the EUD team, including present and former staff and interns. In particular, EUD thanks its former Communication and Media Officer Lars Knudsen for his invaluable help in filming and setting up the online survey. The EUD member associations across Europe were of great assistance in achieving a balanced and exemplary result, as were the former and current EUD Board members. Annika Pabsch, EUD Policy Officer conducted the survey and compiled the present report.

In particular, EUD would also like to thank the following persons and organisations in providing feedback and translations into written and signed languages, as well as organising the launch event in the European Parliament. Without their invaluable input this project would not have been possible:

NADs:
- Confederación Estatal de Personas Sordas (CNSE), Spain
- Deutscher Gehörlosen-Bund e.V. (DGB), Germany
- Ente Nazionale per la protezione e l’assistenza dei Sordi - Onlus (ENS), Italy

Interns / Assistants:
- Sofiya Kalinova, Bulgaria
- Delphine le Marie, Belgium
- Christophe De Clerck, Belgium
- Netta Keski-Levijoki, Finland
- Marsha Linnartz, Germany
- Stephanie Johnston, USA

EUD also thanks the European Commission for providing funding through its PROGRESS programme to maintain and set up the EUD office, and carry out the survey.
The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) is often considered the first human rights instrument of the 21st century and is the single most important Convention for disabled people around the world. It was adopted in 2006 and entered into force on 3 May 2008. The Convention has thus far gathered over 150 signatories and over 140 State Parties have ratified it.

The UNCRPD is the first UN treaty document that can be signed and ratified by regional integration organisations, such as the EU. In January 2011 – after joint efforts by the Belgian Council Presidency and EDF, as the European umbrella organisation of disabled persons – the European Union as a whole ratified the Convention, although not the Optional Protocol. The UNCRPD is a significant step for the Deaf Community because it is the first international treaty to explicitly mention and safeguard sign language and the Deaf Community with its unique culture.

The Convention promotes the social model of disability, making persons with disabilities into rights holders and empowered subjects of law rather than inactive objects, changing the focus from a medical model of disability to a social model that states society disables the individual from exercising their human rights. The Convention is significant for Deaf sign language users in every area of life, notwithstanding the fact that the text itself does not mention sign language in every article. Every article carries importance for all persons with disabilities, including Deaf people. As an example one may mention article 29, granting the full participation in political and public life, “including the right and opportunity [...] to vote and be elected”. Equal inclusion in all areas is not conditional upon the explicit reference to sign language, although sign language might – in practice – be a valid means to achieve such inclusion.

**THERE ARE FIVE ARTICLES IN THE CONVENTION OVERTLY USING THE WORD SIGN LANGUAGE**

- **Article 2 Definition:** "Language includes spoken and signed languages"
- **Article 9 Accessibility:** "enable persons with disabilities to live independently and participate fully in all aspects of life" through measures "such as the provision of sign language interpreters".
- **Article 21 Freedom of expression and opinion, and access to information:** "Accepting and facilitating the use of sign languages" and "recognising and promoting the use of sign language"
- **Article 24 Education:** "Facilitating the learning of sign language and the promotion of the linguistic identity of the deaf community" and "employ teachers [...] who are qualified in sign language"
- **Article 30 Participation in cultural life, recreation, leisure and sport:** "recognition and support of their specific cultural and linguistic identity, including sign languages and deaf culture"
EUD SURVEY

EUD has been working on the implementation of the UNCRPD at European level since before the EU adopted the Convention, not only translating a number of important articles into sign language but also attending UNCRPD Committee sessions in Geneva, and accessibly informing Deaf citizens of the progress at all levels, including at European level. After the EU ratified the document, EUD has become aware of the deficit of data in relation to the implementation of Deaf-related issues. In particular, EUD wanted to ensure there was harmonised data across all countries that would include answers from Deaf citizens and organisations from all EU Member States in an accessible and transparent manner.

EUD’s primary goal was to create a survey that was conducted in International Sign, minimising the risk of misunderstanding and low response rates due to inaccessibility of the language. Furthermore, we asked our member association for assistance in the translation and promotion of the survey in their own written and signed languages.

With the European Union’s ratification of the UN Convention, it was obliged to produce a first comprehensive report “on measures taken to give effect to its obligations” under the Convention two years later (Article 35). At the same time the European Disability Forum (EDF) was commissioned to become the lead organisation in collecting information for the parallel reporting process. Both reports are currently still in progress and EUD aims at making a valuable contribution with this survey, in particular to the parallel report. The results are freely available on our website and EUD hopes to be a frontrunner for other disability organisations at European-wide but also an example for other Deaf associations at national level.
EUD SURVEY

EUD first initiated a small-scale survey in 2011, featured on the EUD website and promoted through social media channels. After consultation with our members in a workshop at the General Assembly in Copenhagen in 2012, EUD significantly improved the survey and re-launched a more detailed and more accessible version shortly after.

The democratically altered survey was online on our website for five months and promoted on all (social) media channels. The survey was in effect a combination of three separate surveys, directed at three distinct target groups, tackling UNCRPD issues from three different angles, to ensure a balanced and comprehensive set of data:

- **NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS OF THE DEAF (NADs)**

  The NADs answered questions in relation to the inclusion of their organisation in the ratification and the parallel reporting process, as well as the implementation of the UNCRPD. In essence, EUD attempted at understanding the relationship of the national Deaf association with the Convention and other disability organisation and asked whether and how EUD could be of assistance in achieving such goals.

- **EUROPEAN-LEVEL ORGANISATIONS AND DEAF INDIVIDUALS WITH EUROPEAN-WIDE EXPERIENCE**

  The last of the three surveys centred on the one hand on the access of the EU institutions themselves, as well as access to the UNCRPD Committee session. Questions were focussed on the actual nature of barriers, the possible ideal reasonable accommodations, and the process of booking sign language interpretation. On the other hand the survey was also related to one of the four freedoms proclaimed in the Treaties: the freedom of movement of in particular workers and students. Again, main barriers and ideal reasonable accommodations were in focus to reach better in-depth understanding of the needs of Deaf sign language users.

- **DEAF INDIVIDUALS FROM ALL EUD MEMBER COUNTRIES**

  The survey targeted of Deaf individuals was of more practical nature, inquiring about the implementation of the Convention with regard to Deaf people’s everyday life. Questions ranged from sign language interpreting services, to television, accessible websites, participation in the election process, and accessibility issues in the workplace.
EUD SURVEY

The full results will be presented separately for each survey type. First, the respondents are categorised and analysed, followed by detailed data regarding each question and UNCRPD article. All numbers are taken directly from the surveys; the percentages are adjusted for each question, taking into account respondents not answering the full questionnaire.

NUMBERS OF RESPONDENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Number of SL users</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium - Flanders</td>
<td>6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium - Wallonia</td>
<td>25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td>15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyprus</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>9,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>140,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iceland</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latvia</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lithuania</td>
<td>7,600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Country       Number of SL users
Luxembourg    60
Malta         130
Norway        5,000
Poland        70,000
Romania       24,000
Slovakia      10,000
Slovenia      1,510
Spain         135,000
Sweden        30,000
Switzerland   10,000
United Kingdom 105,000
Bosnia & Herzegovina 20,000
Israel        8,000
Serbia        6,000 - 8,000
Croatia       5,000
Most NADs are and were involved through the National Disability Council; some were delegates in New York for the signature. NADs are also involved in the parallel report, or working groups within the government.
**EUD SURVEY**

**WHAT DOES YOUR DEAF ASSOCIATION DO TO ENSURE UNCRPD IMPLEMENTATION AT NATIONAL LEVEL?**

- Meet with politicians & other political stakeholders: 81.3%
- Organise protests/demonstrations: 21.9%
- Co-operate with other DPOs (Disabled People's Organisations): 71.9%
- Co-operate with the National Disability Council: 71.9%
- Legal assistance with specific cases: 31.3%

*Multiple answers possible*

**HOW CAN EUD ASSIST NAD IN BECOMING MORE ACTIVE IN IMPLEMENTING UNCRPD?**

- EUD should give presentations for the NADs in the member countries: 100%
- EUD must organise more training workshops: 50%
- EUD should give more information on its website (in IS & written English): 75%
- EUD should produce more information material (DVDs, flyers, toolkits): 25%
- We have enough information ourselves: 0%

**HOW ACCESSIBLE IS THE 112 EMERGENCY NUMBER IN YOUR COUNTRY?**

- Video service: 3.1%
- Fax service: 40.6%
- No accessibility: 31.3%
- Fully accessible: 0%
- SMS service: 25%
- Smart phone application: 6.3%
TOTAL NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS: 314

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Personally</th>
<th>Number of respondents</th>
<th>Percentage of overall respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deaf sign language users</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>75,48 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hard of Hearing sign language users</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>10,83 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hearing sign language users</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1,59 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sign language interpreters national</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1,91 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sign language interpreters international</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3,18 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hearing professionals</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3,18 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>3,82 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PERCENTAGE PER COUNTRY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>1,27 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium - Flanders</td>
<td>4,14 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium - Wallonia</td>
<td>2,87 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td>5,41 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>5,1 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>11,78 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>0,96 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>7,32 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>0,64 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iceland</td>
<td>1,91 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>1,59 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>5,41 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latvia</td>
<td>0,32 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lithuania</td>
<td>0,64 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luxembourg</td>
<td>0,96 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>19,75 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malta</td>
<td>2,55 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>0,64 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romania</td>
<td>0,96 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovenia</td>
<td>0,64 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>11,15 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>1,91 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>2,87 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serbia</td>
<td>0,32 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Croatia</td>
<td>0,32 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Netherlands, as one of the last countries of the EU to not have ratified the UNCRPD is among one of the countries with the biggest problem of Deaf awareness. Over 50% of respondents claimed that the biggest issue in the workplace was no Deaf awareness. By contrast, this number is as low as 12.5% in the Czech Republic.

The UK (11.11%) and Denmark (5.4%) both have reportedly very little problems with governments or employers not paying reasonable accommodation. For other countries such as Greece or Luxembourg the number rises to 100% of respondents. Luxembourg, although having ratified the UN Convention does not have any legislative protection of their national sign language (German Sign Language).

Furthermore, access to reasonable accommodation for example in the form of sign language interpreters is often inflexible and only covers a portion of a full workweek. Often the application procedure to receive services is too complex to be readily understood by all Deaf workers. By contrast, Deaf people who worked in Deaf environments reported little to no problems.
ISSUES AND PROBLEMS WITH THE SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER SERVICES

- Sign language interpreters not qualified enough: 50.6%
- Sign language interpreters not available: 42.7%
- Sign language interpreter service not accessible: 19.4%
- Sign language interpreters not reliable (lateness, attitude, no preparation): 21.8%
- Not clear how to apply for sign language interpreters (payment not clear): 25.2%
- Other: 28.2%

IS THERE A SIGN LANGUAGE VIDEO RELAY SERVICE IN YOUR COUNTRY?

- Yes, a government service: 21.8%
- Yes, a government-founded private service: 21.8%
- Yes, a private company: 13.6%
- Yes, more than one private company: 8.7%
- We are currently setting up: 15.5%
- Other: 13.6%

Multiple answers possible.
EUD SURVEY

DO YOU HAVE FULL ACCESS TO HEALTH SERVICES? WHAT ARE THE PROBLEMS YOU ENCOUNTER? CAN YOU GIVE EXAMPLES OF PROBLEMS?

Sign language interpreters
Payment of sign language interpreters
Emergency of sign language interpreters
Waiting room: screen
Health professionals do not know sign language
Booking of appointments (phone-only system)
More expensive insurance than non-Deaf people

» The nurse refused to give me an appointment with the doctor because they have a drop-in system. I felt that the nurse did not understand my need is to use a sign language interpreter «

WHY DO YOU NOT VOTE?

I am not interested in politics
I would like to vote but do not have enough accessible information (e.g. in sign language)
I do not think politicians care enough about ‘Deaf issues’
Do not know how to vote
Other

AN ACCESSIBLE WEBSITE AT NATIONAL/REGIONAL LEVEL MUST CONTAIN

Videos in international sign language 32,5 %
Videos in national sign language 78,8 %
Subtitles in English 26,6 %
Subtitles in the national languages 67,5 %
Easy to read text (English) 17,7 %
Easy to read text (other languages) 33 %
Other 7,9 %

Multiple answers possible
### PERCENTAGE PER COUNTRY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Federation/Union/association</th>
<th>Respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EUD</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WFD</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EFSLI</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EUDY</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Deaf Association</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WASLI</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDSO</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WFDYS</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EFHOH</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

18 responses
- 13 Deaf SL Users
- 3 SL interpreters (IS & national SL)
- 1 SL interpreter (national SL only)
- 1 HoH (NOT SL user)

### WHICH INSTITUTIONS HAVE YOU ENCOUNTERED BARRIERS WITH?

- **EP Brussels**: 44.4%
- **EC Brussels**: 22.2%
- **EC Luxembourg**: 5.5%
- **EP Strasbourg**: 16.6%
- **CoE Strasbourg**: 22.2%
- **UN Geneva**: 16.6%
- **CoE Other**: 11.1%
- **ENGO**: 16.6%
- **UN Other**: 11.1%
The respondents indicated a problem with regards to event organisers requesting individual interpreters and not interpreter teams which in turn results in difficulties in collaborating to provide common answers to event organisers. Other respondents mentioned the fact that supranational organisations do not pre-plan budget for IS interpretation. It was suggested that there should be a specific body within each EU institution to be mandated for accessibility of events. The pre-booking of interpreters should become the norm, rather than last-minute bookings if a Deaf sign language user decides to attend.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MOST FREQUENTLY FACED BARRIERS</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No international sign interpretation</td>
<td>72,2 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No national sign language interpretation</td>
<td>50 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No speech-to-text-service</td>
<td>27,8 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No Deaf awareness</td>
<td>61,1 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IDEAL REASONABLE ACCOMODATION</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>International sign</td>
<td>33,3 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National sign language</td>
<td>55,6 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hearing Loop</td>
<td>5,6 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Some prefer both: IS/national SL + speech-to-text
Some prefer three: IS & Hearing Loop & Speech-to-text

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE INFORMED OF WHO THE SL INTERPRETERS ARE IN A CONFERENCE?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>of respondents would like to be informed who the sign language interpreters are in a conference.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**EUD SURVEY**

**CAN YOU IMAGINE WORKING WITH REMOTE INTERPRETERS?**

- **Yes**: 66.3%
- **Yes, but interpreters needed on site for break times**: 15.1%
- **No**: 13.7%
- **Other**: 4.9%

Multiple answers possible

» Yes, for some situations it’s perfect. But in some situations it’s still important to have an interpreter for break times, for networking, etc «

» Preferably not, but in case of emergencies, yes «

» Deaf people must have the right to choose themselves «

» Sure! Would love that! «

**FACE-TO-FACE MEETINGS – ACCEPTABLE ACCOMMODATION**

- **International sign interpreter**: 61.1%
- **National sign language interpreter**: 61.1%
- **Remote international sign interpreter**: 22.2%
- **Remote national SL interpreter**: 27.8%

Multiple answers possible

Other: speech-to-text reporter, preference for face-to-face interpreters, last option remote interpreters.
EUD SURVEY

SHOULD THE EU INSTITUTIONS HAVE PERMANENT IN-HOUSE SL INTERPRETERS PRESENT TO ENSURE ACCESSIBILITY?

Yes, international sign interpreters: 61.1%
Yes, national sign language interpreters: 11.1%
No, the current situation is acceptable: 5.6%

ACCESSIBLE WEBSITES AT EUROPEAN LEVEL MUST CONTAIN

- Videos in international sign: 72.2%
- Videos in national sign language: 66.6%
- Subtitles English: 66.6%
- Subtitles national language: 44.4%
- Easy to read text (English): 55.6%
- Easy to read text (other languages): 38.9%

CONCLUSION

It has become evident that sign language users are still at a great disadvantage in all countries of the European Union. Although the national governments and also the European Union have made considerable progress, especially in view of the UNCRPD ratifications, there are a number of areas still to be improved, such as the accessibility of 112 emergency services, workplace accommodations, website and public service accessibility.

It must be noted that the survey cannot be seen as a fully representative sample of the Union (Deaf) population, however it does give us a good indication of the current status and can assist us in making policy recommendations at all levels.
**EUD ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE**

**Austria** – Österreichischer Gehörlosenbund (ÖGLB), **Belgium** – Federatie van Vlaamse Doven Organisaties (FEVLADO), **Bulgaria** – Съюз на глухите в България (СГБ / UDB), **Cyprus** – Ομοσπονδία Κυπριών Κύπρου, **Czech Republic** – Svaz neslyšících a nedoslýchavých v ČR (UDHH), **Denmark** – Danske Daves Landsforbund (DDL), **Estonia** – Eesti Kurtide Liit (EAD), **Finland** – Kuurojen Liitto (FAD), **France** – Fédération Nationale des Sourds de France (FNSF), **Germany** – Deutscher Gehörlosen-Bund (DGB), **Greece** – Ομοσπονδία Κωφών Ελλάδος (HFD), **Hungary** – Siketek és Nagyotálok Országos Szövetsége (SINOSZ), **Iceland** – Félag heyrnarlausra, **Ireland** – Irish Deaf Society (IDS), **Italy** – Ente Nazionale Sordi (ENS), **Latvia** – Latvijas Nedzirdīgo savienība (LAD), **Lithuania** – Lietuvos kurčiųjų draugija, **Luxembourg** – Vereinigung der Gehörlosen und Schwerhörigen Luxemburg (VGLS), **Malta** – Għaqda Persuni Neqsin mis-Smigh, **Netherlands** – Dovenschap, **Norway** – Norges Døveforbund (NDF), **Poland** – Polski Związek Głuchych (PZG), **Portugal** – Federação Portuguesa das Associações de Surdos (FPAS), **Romania** – Asociația Națională a Surzilor din România (ANSR), **Slovakia** – Asociácia nepočujúcich Slovenska (ANEPS), **Slovenia** – Zveza drustev gulihih v naglušnih Slovenije, **Spain** – Confederación Estatal de Personas Sordas (CNSE), **Sweden** – Sveriges Dövas Riksförbund (SDF), **Switzerland** – Schweizerischen Gehörlosenbund, **United Kingdom** – British Deaf Association (BDA)

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**President**
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