

INVITATION

The Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Germany to the United Nations and the United Kingdom Mission to the United Nations cordially invite to a Side Event on the occasion of the 16th Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

**“Digital participation of persons
with intellectual disabilities”**

Wednesday, 15 June 2023

11:30am - 12:45pm

**United Nations Headquarters, New York
Conference Room C**

This year, the Special Olympics World Games will be held in Germany. For this reason, Germany is paying special attention to the group of persons with intellectual disabilities in 2023. The focus is on how society can better meet the needs of persons with intellectual disabilities in all areas.

Digitization plays a particularly important role in this context. Since digitization encompasses all areas of life, it is a significant factor for successful inclusion and participation. If people cannot use digital applications and services, they run a considerable risk of exclusion. Unfortunately, this is still particularly true for persons with intellectual disabilities. In addition to inadequate access to the online world, this is primarily due to non-accessible offerings and a lack of inclusive teaching and learning materials.

In detail, this means that websites are not optimized in their presentation form, there is hardly any content in easy-to-use language, the production and

publication of own multimedia products is too complicated, there is a lack of concrete support for media-related questions as well as the possibility to independently acquire knowledge for action.

We would like to present two good examples from the United Kingdom and Germany of how persons with intellectual disabilities can participate more and better digitally. This also involves the design of support services.

opening remarks by

- Jürgen Dusel, Commissioner for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, GER
- Tom Pursglove MP, Minister of State for Disabled, People Health and Work, UK
- Connie Laurin Bowie, Executive Director, Inclusion International, UK

keynotes by

- Helen Rademakers und Nicola Löhr, Project "The PIKSL Labs - Making digital participation possible", GER
- Dr. Emma Stone, Project "Digital Lifeline for people with learning disabilities" of the Good Things Foundation, UK

Q&A and discussion with keynote speakers

closing remarks by

- Ambassador Thomas Zahneisen, Deputy Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations

Guiding questions:

- How can people with intellectual disabilities participate more and better digitally?
- What are the success factors for better participation of this group of people?
- How should support services be designed?