



Union for the Mediterranean
Union pour la Méditerranée
الاتحاد من أجل المتوسط



GOBIERNO DE ESPAÑA
MINISTERIO DE DERECHOS SOCIALES, CONSUMO
Y AGENDA 2030

DEPARTAMENT D'ACCÉS
I PARTICIPACIÓ SOCIAL
DEPARTAMENTO DE ACCESO
Y PARTICIPACIÓN SOCIAL

JOINT COMMITMENT STATEMENT

TOWARDS A EURO-MEDITERRANEAN REGIONAL AGENDA ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES



Joint Commitment Statement

We, representatives of governments from across the Euro-Mediterranean region, reaffirm our shared commitment to building an inclusive region where persons with disabilities enjoy their rights, autonomy, and full participation in social, economic, cultural, and political life.

Shared Vision

Guided by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and building on the outcomes of the 1st EuroMed Conference on Disability (Barcelona, January 2022) and 2nd EuroMed Conference on Disability (Amman, January 2024) as well as the Theory of Change for a Regional Disability Agenda, we commit to advancing a comprehensive Euro-Mediterranean framework that ensures the socio-economic inclusion, empowerment, and protection of persons with disabilities.

This framework will be anchored in rights-based, intersectional, and gender-responsive approaches, ensuring that no one is left behind.

Core Commitments

1. Strengthening Policy and Legal Frameworks

- Align national legislation with CRPD provisions.
- Embed disability inclusion into national development strategies and regional cooperation mechanisms.
- Ensure gender-sensitive approaches that address the compounded discrimination faced by women and girls with disabilities.



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2. Advancing Socio-Economic Inclusion

- Promote access to decent and formal employment, through vocational training, inclusive hiring policies, employer engagement, fiscal incentives, and support for self-employment and entrepreneurship.
- Strengthen social protection systems as a foundation for independent living, covering disability-related extra costs, reducing poverty, and promoting gender equality.
- Guarantee accessibility of infrastructure, services, and digital technologies, applying accessibility principles.

3. Addressing Emergencies and Emerging Challenges

- Incorporate disability perspectives into humanitarian action, climate adaptation, migration policy, and disaster risk reduction, ensuring accessibility of shelters, communication, and services.
- Support local expertise and inclusive preparedness mechanisms, recognizing the specific risks persons with disabilities face during crises.

4. Ensuring Meaningful Participation

- Institutionalize mechanisms for the active participation of OPDs in policymaking, governance, and implementation processes, in line with CRPD Article 4.3 and article 33.
- Support the establishment of a Euro-Mediterranean Disability Network under the UfM umbrella, working alongside EDF and AOPD among others, to foster coordination, knowledge exchange, and collaboration.
- Provide financial and/or technical support to strengthen OPDs, with particular attention to underrepresented groups.



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Pathway for Action

- We will establish, on a voluntary basis, a **Regional Agenda on Disability** under the Union for the Mediterranean, supported by ONCE Social Group, EDF, and AOPD.
- Mobilize international cooperation and funding to sustain the Agenda.

Our Collective Responsibility

We recognize that advancing disability rights requires the combined leadership of governments, OPDs, CSOs, international partners, and the private sector. Governments must demonstrate political will and allocate resources; civil society must ensure accountability and advocacy; OPDs must remain central, shaping the decisions that affect their lives.

Together, we commit to transforming this vision into tangible progress for the persons with disabilities living in the Euro-Mediterranean region, ensuring dignity, equality, and inclusion for all.

Barcelona, September 23rd 2025