

**The
EUROPEAN FORUM
of the insurance against accidents at work and occupational diseases
welcomes European efforts towards the inclusion of persons with disabilities**

The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disability (UNCRPD) and its Optional Protocol were adopted on 13 December 2006 and came into force on 3 May 2008.

The European Union (EU) is in particular responsible for the transposition of article 27 of the UNCRPD dealing with work and employment. In this context the European Commission launched the European Strategy of Disability 2012-2020 with the aim to implement the principles of the UNCRPD in the whole EU.

The UNCRPD focuses on eliminating barriers in the following main areas for which also the EUROPEAN FORUM stands up: accessibility, mobility, health, education, occupation and rehabilitation.

The EUROPEAN FORUM welcomes the EU efforts outlined in the European Strategy of Disability 2012-2020. The activities towards a European Accessibility Act that shall aim at eliminating obstacles for persons with disabilities are appreciated.

The members of the EUROPEAN FORUM are of the opinion that the Accessibility Act could improve in a significant way the current situation of disabled persons in the EU Member States and in so far promote the implementation of the principles of the UNCRPD in countries across Europe.

Accessibility is a pre-condition for the successful participation in social and professional life. To enable the active and full participation of people with disabilities after a work accident or occupational disease is a major concern of the members of the EUROPEAN FORUM.

The EUROPEAN FORUM furthermore underlines that the idea of inclusion is of importance for all areas of insurance against accidents at work and occupational diseases.

Moreover the objective to enable individual autonomy and independence of disabled persons is supported by the members of the EUROPEAN FORUM. This also includes a rehabilitation process that starts in a very early phase and that is tailored to individual needs of persons after a work accident.



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The EUROPEAN FORUM of Insurance against accidents at work and occupational diseases represents 21 institutions responsible for statutory accident insurance in 19 countries in Europe. Their common goal is to promote and safeguard their principles of social accident insurance and to serve as focal point for statutory accident insurance matters in Europe and abroad.

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