



United Kingdom  
Mission to the  
United Nations



## 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 you to a Side Event on the occasion of the 16<sup>th</sup> Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

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

**Thursday, 15 June 2023**

**11:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.**

**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.

Digitalization plays a particularly important role in this context. Since digitalization 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 services and a lack of inclusive teaching and learning materials.

More precisely this leads to some of the following barriers: the presentation form of websites is not optimized, there is hardly any content in easy-to-read

language, the production and publication of (own) multimedia products is too complicated, there is a lack of concrete support for media-related questions and limited possibilities to acquire knowledge necessary for action independently. We would like to present two best practices from the United Kingdom and Germany of how persons with intellectual disabilities can participate more and better in the digital world. This also includes the design of support services.

Opening remarks by

- Jürgen Dusel, Federal Government Commissioner for Matters relating to 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 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 in the digital world?
- What are the success factors for better participation of this group of people?
- How should support services be designed?

For queries please contact: [soz-1-vn@newy.auswaertiges-amt.de](mailto:soz-1-vn@newy.auswaertiges-amt.de)