

Info Session: G7 and the Global Disability Summit

Concept Note & Agenda

Organizer: European Disability Forum (EDF)

Audience: EDF Members Only

Date: Wednesday, June 19th

Time: 14:00-15:00 CET

Location: [Online - Zoom](#)

Background: The Group of Seven (G7) is an informal forum that brings together Italy, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States. The **European Union (EU) also participates in the Group** and is represented at the summits by the President of the European Council and the President of the European Commission.

Over the years G7 has progressively expanded its focus. From an ad-hoc gathering to discuss financial challenges, it has become a more formal, prominent venue to address major global issues. This evolution became even more evident at the beginning of the new millennium, as the G7 recognized the need for more technical and detailed discussions on these complex issues. **Consequently, it initiated the first thematic Ministerial Meetings, to delve deeper into specific topics and bring more nuanced insights into the G7's deliberations.**

During 2024 Italy, who holds this year's G7 Presidency, will host 21 Ministerial Meetings, including one Ministerial meeting focused on **inclusion and disability between October 14-16, 2024**. This important ministerial meeting along with next year's **Global Disability Summit between 2-3, 2025** offers excellent opportunities to further advance disability inclusion on the global stage.

Meeting Objective: The objective of this meeting is to provide participants with comprehensive information on the workings of the Group of Seven (G7) and their upcoming Ministerial Meeting on 'Inclusion & Disability.' The G7, which includes Italy, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States, also invites the European Union to participate in its discussions. By exploring the structure and functions of the G7, this meeting aims to familiarize EDF members with the first-ever Disability and Inclusion focus of the G7 and how they can contribute and utilize its outcomes.

Additionally, the session will explore strategies for EDF members to actively engage with and influence their national governments, encouraging them to make strong global commitments at the forthcoming Global Disability Summit in 2025.

This meeting is a crucial step towards supporting members in leveraging the G7 and Global Disability Summit platforms to advance disability inclusion globally.

Accessibility: The meeting includes international sign interpretation and real-time captioning in English.

Contact: Erika Hudson, EDF International Cooperation Policy Officer, erika.hudson@edf-feph.org.

Draft Program:

Agenda	Speakers <i>Moderator: Alejandro Moledo</i>	Time
Welcome and Introduction	Alejandro Moledo , European Disability Forum	14:00-14:10
Understanding the Group of Seven (G7) and Disability Inclusion	Dr. Maja Barbara Miernik , Italian PCM - Technical Secretariat for the Policies in favor of Persons with Disabilities Dr. Vanessa Terzo , Italian PCM - Technical Secretariat for the Policies in favor of Persons with Disabilities	14:10-14:20
Q&A Session: G7 & Disability Inclusion	Alejandro Moledo , European Disability Forum	14:20-14:30
Understanding the Global Disability Summit 2025	Dr. Alexander Görsdorf , Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development	14:30-14:40
Q&A Session: GDS2025 & Commitments	Marion Steff , European Disability Forum	14:40-14:50
Next Steps and Conclusion	Alejandro Moledo , European Disability Forum Giampiero Griffo , Italian Network on Disability and Development	14:50-15:00