

Call for Papers and Poster Presentations



EU-Arab Cooperation Forum on the
Rights of Persons with Disabilities
منتدى التعاون الأوروبي العربي
لحقوق الأشخاص ذوي الإعاقة

“Transition towards Independent Living within the Community”

The EU-Arab Cooperation Forum on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities invites graduate students and early career researchers and authors to submit abstracts of academic or policy papers and research posters for an academic conference scheduled for December 2022.

The academic conference will focus on the theme of independent living and integration in the community, a right enshrined in Article 19 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD): “States Parties to the present Convention recognize the equal right of all persons with disabilities to live in the community, with choices equal to others, and shall take effective and appropriate measures to facilitate full enjoyment by persons with disabilities of this right and their full inclusion and participation in the community”.

The accepted papers will be published by the Cooperation Forum following the conference.

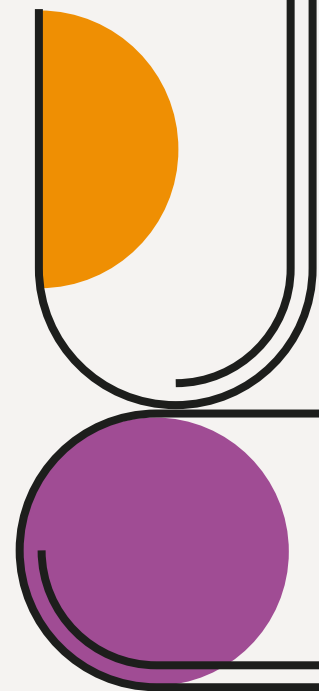
TOPICS OF INTEREST

Submissions can focus on one or more of the following topics:

- **Concepts, theories and skills related to independent living:** what does inclusion in the community mean? What does the community mean? What cultural dimensions affect the implementation of Article 19 of the CRPD?
- **Transitions:** transitions to adulthood, to higher education and to employment.
- **De-institutionalization:** transition from institutional set-ups, the family home and residential services.
- **Use of technology and innovation:** what is the role of artificial intelligence and digital inclusion in fostering independent living? Is technology being used to overcome existing obstacles, and how? Is there a balance of risks and opportunities?
- **Policies:** what is the status of independent living and de-institutionalization policies? Are they on the agenda of decision-makers?



- **Community-based inclusive development (CBID) approaches.**
- **Progressive realization:** for example, is there a trend toward trans-institutionalization, such as moving from large institutions to smaller ones like group homes? Is this seen as a necessary transition or a dangerous diversion?
- **The service dimension:** what do current service arrangements, if any, look like? Is service modernization (i.e., personalized budgets and services) part of the community living agenda and how? What is the understanding of community-based services?
- **Family:** how have families, including caregivers, been impacted by community living strategies or their absence?
- **Public opinion:** has public receptiveness increased as more persons with disabilities are included in the community? Have governments nurtured public opinion to create space for community living, as per Article 8 of the CRPD?
- **Linkages:** what is the link between personal autonomy, supported decision-making and community living, as per Article 12 of the CRPD? Has progress on Article 19 on community living been matched by progress on Article 12, enabling persons with disabilities to make their own way in the community? Has the trend toward community living been matched by efforts to provide inclusive employment and transport, among others, to maximize the advantage of community living for persons with disabilities?



Guide for authors

Papers

Researchers are invited to submit their paper abstracts, comprised of about **150-300 words**. If abstracts are accepted by the peer-review committee, authors will be asked to submit their full research articles that consist of **7,000-10,000 words**.

Research posters

Researchers, especially early career researchers, are invited to submit their research poster abstracts, comprised of about **100-200 words**. If abstracts accepted by the peer-review committee, authors will be asked to submit their full research posters, which they will present during a research poster session at the conference.

Submission of abstracts

To submit abstracts or send any queries, please contact Ms. Fathia Abdel Fadil (abdelfadil@un.org) from the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA).

Languages

Arabic or English

Important dates

- **Deadline to submit abstracts: 30 April 2022.**
- Decision of accepting abstracts: 30 May 2022.
- Submission of the first draft: 1 November 2022.
- Submission of the final draft: 30 November 2022.
- Academic conference: first or second week of December 2022.

