

P R O G R A M M E



PROGRAMME

29th of October 2025

8:30 - 9:30 **Registration**

Opening Session: Welcome and Introductory Remarks

9:30 - 9:45 **Welcome Remarks**

Aleksandra Ivankovic, Deputy Director, Victim Support Europe (VSE)

9:45 - 10:00 **Opening Address**

Dovile Juodkaite, Member of the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)

10:00 - 10:15 **Keynote Remarks**

Nadia Hadad, Co-chair European Network on Independent Living (ENIL)

From Rights to Reality: Advancing Fundamental Rights in the EU

10:15 - 10:45 **The LITI-GATE Project: Objectives and Achievements**

Simona Florescu, Litigation Director, Validity Foundation

Paula Peralta Agustí, Policy Assistant, Victim Support Europe (VSE)

10:45 - 11:15 **The contribution of the CRPD to the fundamental rights protection in the European Union**

Prof. Dr. iur. Markus Schefer, University of Basel

11:15 - 11:30 **Coffee Break**

From Rights of Persons with Disabilities in the European Union

11:30 - 11:45 **Video Message**

Katrin Langensiepen, Member of the European Parliament

11:45 - 13:00 **Panel Discussion**

The Institutionalisation of Persons with Disabilities and the Role of EU Law

Video Screening: Life in institutions for Persons with Disabilities

Moderator: Anna Arganashvili, Litigation Officer, Validity Foundation

Panellists:

Nadia Hadad, Co-chair European Network on Independent Living (ENIL)

Georgiana Pascu, Attorney and 'Advocate for Dignity' Programme Manager (CLR)

Aneta Genova, Attorney, KERA Foundation

13.00 – 14.15 **Lunch Break**

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Access to Justice for Persons with Disabilities

14.15 – 14.45 Barriers to Access to Justice: Perspectives from Persons with Disabilities and Their Legal Representatives

Tanya Petkova, Self-Advocate
Vladimir Mirchev, Attorney, KERA Foundation

14.45 – 15.15 Procedural Accommodations for Persons with Disabilities

Adela Santos Lavigne, Project Officer, European Network on Independent Living (ENIL)

15.15 – 15.30 Coffee Break

Litigating the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

**15.30 - 17.00 Panel Discussion
Victims with Disabilities in National Legislation: The Relevance of International Law**

Video Screening: The Case of Victor I. v. the Republic of Moldova

Moderator: Aleksandra Ivankovic, Deputy Director, Victim Support Europe

Panellists:

Peter Stanicz, Attorney-at-law and lecturer at Eötvös Loránd University
Mr. Cătălin Popescu, Prosecutor and Adviser to the Romanian Prosecutor General
Klara Procházková, Attorney, Forum for Human Rights

Concluding Remarks and Final Reflections

**17.00 – 17.15 Keynote speech
Independent living, the CRPD, and critique of professional power**

Teodor Mladenov

17.15 – 17.30 Closing remarks

Steven Allen, Executive Director, Validity Foundation