

ICLife: Tools for inclusion

How to make life on a campus for higher education more inclusive.

White paper



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Introduction

The ICLife project wants to make **education** more inclusive for people with **intellectual disabilities**.

“ICLife” stands for “Inclusive Campus Life”

and the project is about higher education.

Higher education is education for young adults.

All people with disabilities have the right

to receive a good higher education.

This is mentioned in the **UN CRPD**.

Taking part in higher education is a good thing

for people with intellectual disabilities,

because:

- they can get better jobs
- they can get to know new people
- they can develop new skills

Having people with intellectual disabilities

in higher education is also good

for universities.



For example, people with intellectual disabilities can bring new points of view inside the universities.

But professors need to know that people with intellectual disabilities learn in a different way.

They normally need more time to learn things.

Sometimes they need to learn things that are different from the rest of the class.



Examples of inclusion

There are good examples of inclusive education at universities.

For example, at the law school of the famous Harvard University, in the United States.

Students of law support people with intellectual disabilities to understand and make use of their rights that are written down in the **UN CRPD**.



Other good examples come from the Thomas More university, in Belgium.

At this university, some students build things together with people with intellectual disabilities.

Also at Thomas More university, people with disabilities can sell things that they made in a little shop called “mobile shop”.



How to have more inclusion in higher education

There are different ways to have more inclusion in higher education.

For example:

1 – Staff training

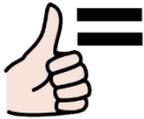


This means telling people who work in universities about the needs of people with intellectual disabilities.

The university can organise trainings for their staff.

People with intellectual disabilities should also take part in these trainings as teachers.

2 – Employment with equal opportunities



Inclusion at university should also be about getting jobs.

This means that if a person with intellectual disability wants to get a job in a university this person should not be **discriminated against**.

3 – Peer support



Peer support means having two people working together.

It is also called “buddy system”.

A student with an intellectual disability can receive peer support from another student without disabilities.

This situation is a good thing for both of them because they can learn from each other.

4 – Legal capacity



There are still people with disabilities who don't have **legal capacity**.

It is important that

they can still take decisions about themselves.

5 – Support from other organisations

Doing all these things

can be difficult for higher education institutes.

That's why they can ask for support

to organisations that work for people

with intellectual disabilities.

In Europe, Inclusion Europe is the organisation

that represents people with intellectual disabilities.

It has members in 39 countries all over Europe.

