

con il Patrocinio di



Inclusive Education for an Inclusive Europe

Tuesday 28th March 2023

9.00-17.30

Monza, Italy



Co-funded by
the European Union



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AUDITORIUM POGLIANI IRCCS SAN GERARDO

Via G. B. Pergolesi 33, 20900 Monza, Italy

COFACE Families Europe is a European civil society network of over 50 organisations across 23 countries, which represents all types of families, without discriminations. COFACE monitors and influences a wide range of policies which impact the lives of families and children, including on disability rights, worklife balance, education, consumer policy, migration and digitalisation.

The COFACE Disability Platform for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and their Families (COFACE-Disability) was founded by COFACE in 1998 to improve the representativeness of people with disabilities and their families. With more than 20 members, COFACE-Disability fights for the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and for sufficient, appropriate care provision and services, close-to-home and in-home help services for people with support needs and their families to be made available in all Member States, and for resources, assistance and provision to be harmonised within the EU.

COFACE-Disability defends the need to develop public care infrastructures supporting persons with disabilities and their families following a life cycle, whole family approach, boosting independent living and meaningful inclusion from birth to old age. This includes specific service provision that responds to the needs of persons with disabilities and their families but also to the removal of barriers in mainstream services. The topic of this event, inclusive education, lies at the intersection of these two necessary paradigm shifts.

Recent EU frameworks such as the EU Child Guarantee, the Strategy on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the European Care Strategy, have renewed the impetus around strengthening our education system for more inclusion and resilience. Building on the results of the 2018 COFACE [conference](#) on sustainable and future-proof education systems, the COFACE-Disability [back-to-school webinar](#) of 2020, the different practices highlighted in the [2021 S.H.I.F.T. report](#) and the expertise of COFACE Disability members, COFACE-Disability and the Regional Committee of AIAS Lombardy will hold a 1-day European expert meeting on inclusive education in Monza (Italy).

Taking the Italian system as a starting point for discussion with European peers, we will bring together organisations of families of persons with disabilities and service providers, education professionals, persons with disabilities and their families and policy-makers from several countries to examine key actions to implement inclusive education in line with the UNCRPD and the [General Comment n4](#).

We aim to apply the COFACE whole-family lens to the topic of inclusive education as a way to build inclusive societies for persons with disabilities and their families:

- Education for building independent living and meaningful inclusion in society;
- Inclusive education from a life course perspective, namely inclusive education beyond compulsory education;
- Looking at the continuum of services between formal and non-formal education with an added focus on culture and sports.

We hope this meeting will foster innovation and knowledge transfer between civil society organisations, create new synergies between COFACE and COFACE Disability members and key Italian and European stakeholders, and contribute to the [S.H.I.F.T.](#) towards more inclusive education systems in Europe.

Working languages: English and Italian.

Participation on invitation only.

PROGRAMME

Monday 27th March 2023

Arrival of delegates.

Tuesday 28th March 2023

8.30-9.00 **Registrations**

9.00-9.30 **Welcome and round of introductions**

Dott. Gaetano Santonocito, President of A.I.A.S. C.R.L. Comitato Regionale Lombardia
Chantal Bruno, Co-president of the COFACE Disability Platform

9.30-11.00 **From theory to practice: the challenges and successes of implementing the Italian inclusive school legislation**

This session acts as a scene setter taking as a starting point the Italian system for inclusive education. The aim of this session is to give background to the EU audience but also to highlight the successes and shortcomings of the Italian system.

Moderator: Dott. Gaetano Santonocito, President of A.I.A.S. C.R.L. Comitato Regionale Lombardia

Keynote speaker:

- Alessandra Locatelli, Minister for Disabilities, Italy
- Giuseppe Arconzo, Associate Professor in Constitutional law and Rector's Delegate for Disabilities and Specific Learning Disorders in the University of Study of Milan, Italy

Reaction: Elisabeth Lammers, Vice president in charge of European affairs, UNAPEI, France

11.00-11.30 Stretching break

11.30-13.00 **Inclusive education at all ages: building blocks for inclusive society**

After having looked generally at the state of inclusive education in Italy and having a response from other EU countries, we will zoom in on different periods and actors of the education system, from early childhood education and care, to higher education/ university with concrete examples of inclusive education in practice.

Moderator: Sven Iversen, Director AGF, COFACE Vice-President, Germany

Inclusive ECEC Services- Special responses for children with disabilities

Renata Nacinovich, MD, Professor of Child Neuropsychiatry University of Milano Bicocca
Head of Child and Adolescent Neuropsychiatry Unit, S. Gerardo Hospital - ASST Monza
Brianza, Italy

Boosting the profession of support teachers in schools

Prof. Antonio Prizio, Head Teacher Istituto Comprensivo Statale "Via Raiberti" Monza,
Italy

Inclusive higher education and mobility – from practice to policy

Kamil Goungor, Policy and Movement Support Officer of the European Network on
Independent Living (ENIL), Greece

Reaction: Dávid Berki, Never Give Up Foundation, Hungary

13.00-14.00 Lunch break

14.00-15.30 **Inclusion in non-formal education and lifelong learning**

After a spotlight on the formal education path, we will broaden the scope to look at non-formal education in childhood and adulthood. How to foster inclusive settings in areas which although they do not belong to formal education plays a central role in inclusion and socialization.

Moderator: Antonia Torrens, Director of KMOP, COFACE Vice-President, Greece

Sport for inclusion programmes: enriching and empowering persons with disabilities through sports

Cristian Fiora, Certified Club Manager, PGA Elite Golf Professional and AIAS Golftherapy trainer and Training Director AIAS, Italy

The power of artistic collaboration between performers with and without disabilities
Gonçalo Solla, Director, Fundação Liga, Portugal

Going the extra mile: Inspiring society with learning hubs for the future of inclusive learning, living and working in Flanders

Femke Houbrechts, Social Innovation and Education Coach, Konekt, Belgium

Reaction: Natalia Beraza, Institutional Relations Officer, FIAPAS, Spain

15.30-15.45 Stretching break

15.45-17.15 **What is Europe doing to boost inclusive education?**

Moderator: Camille Roux, Senior Policy and Advocacy Officer, COFACE

Antonella Mangiaracina, Policy Officer, European Agency for Special Needs and Inclusive Education

Eugenia Casariego Artola, Development and Advocacy Coordinator, European Schoolnet

Caroline Meyers, Expert transnational cooperation and knowledge management, Department Werk en Sociale Economie, Belgium

Alvaro Couceiro, Policy Officer, European Disability Forum

17.15-17.30 **Concluding remarks: key recommendations and next steps**

Annemie Drieskens, President of COFACE Families Europe

Dott. Gaetano Santonocito, President of A.I.A.S. C.R.L. Comitato Regionale Lombardia

20.00 -22.30 Dinner

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