



# ***Manifesto on inclusion and citizenship***

Source:

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**INCLUSION AND CITIZENSHIP**
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- website:  
<https://epuo.acs.si/en/activities/forums/active-citizenship>

## INTRODUCTION

People with special needs and people with disabilities find it difficult to be equally involved and participate in society, live a quality life and work. Many times they are ignored and too often socially excluded. Disabilities and physical deficits also make learning and education difficult. They need adaptations, additional content, tools, incentives and guidance in learning, education and everyday life.

Lifelong learning and education make it easier for them to integrate into society. It is, therefore, necessary to empower different professionals who train and educate adults with various disabilities.

**For active participation of citizens in a democratic space, we need knowledge, specific skills and self-confidence.** The empowerment of adults must take place through an equal dialogue that encourages their critical view and responsibility to transform the world to be fairer and better for all.

## BASIC RECOMMENDATIONS

- Inclusion is based on recognising and respecting diversity. Equal inclusion and participation of all in society are essential, regardless of individuals' disabilities and specifics. Lifelong learning and education contribute to strengthening the skills of all people, i.e. to a more inclusive society.
- People with different disabilities can more easily integrate into a society that provides an inclusive environment without prejudice, doubts, barriers, discrimination and intolerance and offers equal opportunities for all.
- All adults have the right to participate equally in society, regardless of their disability, belief and social status.
- The community approach to learning and teaching people with disabilities is different. At the systemic level, proper training of teachers needs to be provided so they can offer an appropriate supportive environment in which people with disabilities can reach their full potential.



- Adults with various disabilities need a supportive environment to strengthen their mindset about the importance of lifelong learning and education.
- The key is to build a democratic society based on universal human values and rights while respecting different national, political, cultural, religious and other backgrounds. In such a society, global learning and global citizenship are promoted.
- Lifelong learning and education as a human right and a common good are vital in facing modern challenges and transforming a society that will be inclusive, healthy, safe and responsible.
- Lifelong learning and education foster creativity, innovation, critical thinking and responsibility.
- Civil society plays a crucial role in strengthening democracy, transparency, accessibility of fundamental rights for all and increasing citizens' trust in the state and its institutions.





# Appeals

1. Lifelong learning and education programmes need to make the general public aware of the importance of including each individual in decision-making on democratic processes.
  2. Knowledge should be the basis of the proper response to the modern confrontation with future uncertainties and challenges.
  3. It is necessary to take care of an individual's – a responsible citizen's attitude to be active as a member of the community.
  4. The knowledge society should be based on fundamental ethical values, sustainable development, democracy, transparency, social justice and inclusion of all, human rights, the rule of law, equality and solidarity.
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