

Article 8: Illustrative indicators on awareness-raising

ADVANCE VERSION

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The *Human Rights Indicators on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)* are a component of the [SDG-CRPD Resource Package](#) developed by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). This is an advance version of the SDG-CRPD Resource Package. A final version will be issued upon completion of OHCHR review processes.

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Raising awareness throughout society to respect the rights of persons with disabilities

Attributes/ Indicators	Combat stereotypes, prejudices and harmful practices	Foster respect for the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities	Promote awareness of the contributions of persons with disabilities
Structure	<p>8.1 No provision in legislation and policies that perpetuates stigma and discrimination against persons with disabilities.ⁱ</p> <p>8.2 Existence of comprehensive national disability awareness raising strategy and/or plan aimed at combating stereotypes against persons with disabilities and promoting awareness about persons with disabilities and their rights.ⁱⁱ</p> <p>8.3 Specific plan by media regulatory authorities to encourage the adoption by mass media and media outlets of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusive and accessible guidelines for the workplace and human resource procedures to welcome diversity; • Guidelines for journalists on reporting on persons with disabilities.ⁱⁱⁱ • Mechanisms for consultation with persons with disabilities, notably through their representative organizations, in the design, development and monitoring of their policies and practices. <p>8.4 Enactment of legal measures that address hate crimes, hate speech and harmful practices^{iv} against persons with disabilities, including through criminally enforceable sanctions.^v</p> <p>8.5 Enactment of legal measures that address the use of derogatory language and behaviour through proportionate sanctions.</p>	<p>8.6 Human rights education and training programmes include the rights of persons with disabilities and involve organizations of persons with disabilities representative of diverse constituencies.^{vi}</p>	
Process	<p>8.7 Number and type of multimedia awareness-raising activities about the rights of persons with disabilities and their contributions, disaggregated by type, duration and target group.^{vii}</p> <p>8.8 Number and type of accessible and inclusive outreach activities targeting persons with disabilities^{viii} and informing them of their rights under the CRPD, the Optional Protocol, and national legal framework, disaggregated by type and geographical coverage of activities</p> <p>8.9 Number of persons trained under State-run awareness-raising programmes for different actors^{ix} to foster respect for, and inform them of the rights of persons with disabilities, including on combatting stereotypes, prejudices and harmful practices.</p> <p>8.10 Existence of content specifically addressing the inclusion of persons with disabilities and respect for their human rights as guaranteed under the CPRD, and the existence of gender mainstreaming^x in the curricula of schools and universities of journalism/communication industry.</p> <p>8.11 Number and proportion of public and private media companies that have adopted written policies, such as the code of ethics on reporting, addressing persons with disabilities.</p> <p>8.12 Consultation processes undertaken to ensure active involvement of persons with disabilities, including through their representative organizations, in the design, implementation and monitoring of laws, regulations, policies and programmes, concerning raising awareness throughout society to respect the rights of persons with disabilities.^{xi}</p> <p>8.13 Proportion of received complaints concerning portrayal of persons of disabilities that have been investigated and adjudicated; proportion of those found in favour of the complainant; and proportion of the latter that have been complied with by the government and/or duty bearer; each disaggregated by kind of mechanism.</p>		

Raising awareness throughout society to respect the rights of persons with disabilities

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Process (Continued)	<p>8.14 Proportion of justice, administration and law enforcement personnel having received training on disability hate crimes, and on combating harmful practices and disability stereotypes.</p> <p>8.15 Number and proportion of hate crime and hate speech incidents reported, investigated and resulting in conviction, disaggregated by the victim’s sex, age and disability, where applicable.</p> <p>8.16 Proportion of incidents of harmful practices reported, prosecuted and the proportion which led to conviction, disaggregated by the victim’s sex, age and disability.</p>	<p>8.17 Proportion of human rights education and training programmes that include rights of persons with disabilities, disaggregated by general programmes or disability specific programmes.</p>	
Outcome	<p>8.18 Proportion of the population reporting having personally felt discriminated against or harassed within the previous 12 months on the basis of a ground of discrimination prohibited under international human rights law (SDG 10.3.1), disaggregated by sex, age and disability.</p> <p>8.19 Percentage of students experiencing bullying, corporal punishment, harassment, violence, sexual discrimination and abuse by sex, age, disability, type of educational institution public/private, primary/secondary/tertiary/vocational (based on UNESCO indicator).</p> <p>8.20 Proportion of persons within the general population reporting a negative perception of persons with disabilities, disaggregated by disability.^{xii}</p>	<p>8.21 Number and proportion of persons with disabilities in the media appearing as news anchors, spokespersons, experts, and ‘ordinary’ citizens/vox pop in news and current affairs content, disaggregated by sex, age and disability.</p>	

- i This requires repealing provisions with derogatory language, concepts and premises, based on ableism including eugenics, or any other discourse that diminishes the equal dignity and value of life of persons with disabilities as part of human diversity and/or maintains inequality, exclusion, and the justification of discriminatory practices against them; for example, provisions allowing for forced treatment, forced sterilization, institutionalisation and medical experimentation on persons with disabilities. See report of the Special Rapporteur on the impact of ableism in medical and scientific practice, [A/HRC/43/41](#) and OHCHR's report on awareness-raising, [A/HRC/43/27](#).
- ii This should include provisions on:
- Combating stigmatisation and exclusion based on negative beliefs or attitudes concerning persons with disabilities, including those based on customary, religious or medical worldviews;
 - training and education for communication and media professionals on the human-rights based approach to disability;
 - media coverage to raise the visibility of persons with disabilities in society which foster their positive image and capabilities in inclusive settings;
 - media coverage to raise awareness about systemic or pervasive human rights violations against persons with disabilities;
 - securing the support of public officials, including the legislative, executive and judicial branches of government, with regard to awareness raising on the rights of persons with disabilities concerning and in line with the Convention and its Optional Protocol, including refraining from supporting and funding campaigns, publicly or privately run, based on the charity or medical models of disability;
 - making the Convention available in national languages, including sign language, indigenous/minority languages and a variety of formats, such as Easy-to-Read and child-friendly versions.
- iii With the objective of preventing the perpetuation of negative stereotypes, debunking myths, combatting attitudes of intolerance and discrimination against persons with disabilities, ensuring respect for the equal dignity and value of life of persons with disabilities as part of human diversity; and seeking a multiplicity of sources and voices of persons with disabilities.
- iv Harmful practices are those that “are persistent practices and forms of behaviour that are grounded in discrimination on the basis of, among other things, sex, gender and age, in addition to multiple and/or intersecting forms of discrimination that often involve violence and cause physical and/or psychological harm or suffering.” For further information, see [Joint General Recommendation No. 31 by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women/General Comment No. 18 of the Committee on the Rights of the Child on harmful practices](#). Harmful practices against persons with disabilities can be based on disability as well as other factors. See the 2009 Interim Report by the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment on forced psychiatric interventions as an example of harmful practices ([A/63/175](#)).
- v The legislation should specifically include:
- provisions on disability hate crimes, including disability-based violence, bullying, harassment and harmful practices, by public or private actors, to be applicable under criminal law
 - sanctions against inciting discrimination against persons with disabilities in the media, including by promoting and/or inciting harmful practices
 - provisions abolishing harmful practices against persons with disabilities, including women and children, in particular invasive and irreversible involuntary treatments, and practices linked to witchcraft accusations
 - provisions to abolish and eliminate derogatory language on persons with disabilities within laws, policies and government discourse
- vi For more information on human rights education and training and specific indicators, see <http://www.hrc2020.org/indicator-framework>.
- vii Such as the general public, public officials, media outlets, journalists, private sector, community and religious leaders, women and girls with disabilities, marginalised groups of persons with disabilities, etc.
- viii Including women with disabilities, children and youth with disabilities, persons with disabilities from marginalised and excluded communities and those living in rural areas.
- ix Such as the general public, public officials, members of media monitoring bodies, media outlets, journalists, private sector, community and religious leaders, women and girls with disabilities, marginalised groups of persons with disabilities, etc.
- x Information regarding gender sensitivity could be derived from the Gender-Sensitive Indicators for Media (<http://www.media-diversity.org/en/additional-files/Gender-Sensitive-Indicators-for-Media-EN.pdf>).
- xi This indicator requires verifying concrete activities undertaken by public authorities to involve persons with disabilities in decision-making processes related to issues that directly or indirectly affect them in line with article 4(3) of the CRPD and [General Comment no. 7 of the CRPD Committee](#), including consultation meetings, technical briefings, online consultation surveys, calls for comments on draft legislation and policies, among other methods and mechanisms of participation. In this regard, States must
- ensure that consultation processes are transparent and accessible;
 - ensure provision of appropriate and accessible information;
 - not withhold information, condition or prevent organizations of persons with disabilities from freely expressing their opinions;

- include both registered and unregistered organizations;
- ensure early and continuous involvement;
- cover related expenses of participants.

^{xii} This could be assessed through the use of the specific perception surveys, such as those based on the “Social Distance Scale”. See for instance, Council on the prevention and elimination of discrimination and ensuring equality of Moldova, OHCHR and UNDP “Study on equality perceptions and attitudes in the Republic of Moldova” (2015).