Meet your MEPs at home

16-20th May the members of the European parliament are free from meetings in the parliament to instead meet the voters at home. Why not take the opportunity and invite your MEPs to a meeting about Independent Living?

A list of MEPs by countries is available in the following <u>link</u>

The Swedish Independent Living Movement has sent an invitation to our Swedish MEPs to an informative seminar on the key issues in European disability policy, from a Swedish perspective.

As an inspiration, our agenda includes the following topics;

Independent Living

- a counterweight to the medical model
- to be an expert in his own life

De-institutionalization in Europe

- one million children and adults with disabilities live their entire lives in institutions
- EU Structural Funds are counterproductive

Personal assistance

- unique legislation in Sweden
- how do we get the rest of Europe on the train?

Choosing where to live and with whom

- a right under Article 19 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- need for accessible housing in the ordinary housing stock
- service should not "sit in the walls"

Children need to grow up with their families

- families should be offered necessary support
- special solutions or integration?

Free movement in Europe

- accessible transportation, including airlines must take responsibility
- opportunity to bring your support when moving to or living in another country

Accessibility to technical aid

- Technical aid are needed, both at work and leisure, for everyday and special occasions

Some of the MEPs are especially interested in disability issues and have therefore joined the Disability Intergroup; you find them on this **list**.

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