



The President's Foreword



The National Organization of Persons with Disabilities of Serbia (NOOIS) was established in Belgrade on 22nd July 2007. The establishment of this umbrella organization of persons with disabilities of Serbia was encouraged by the projects realized in partnership with the European Disability Forum (EDF) and the experiences from the European Union member-countries. This formal connection of the organizations of persons with disabilities was aimed at more organized, united and effective struggle for improving the status of persons with disabilities, establishing stronger partnerships with decision-makers and better cooperation with national, regional and international organizations of persons with disabilities in Europe and worldwide.

The set goals have been realized to a great extent in the first 10 years, the relevant cooperation has been established with a large number of state authorities, independent bodies and civil society organizations. The partnership between NOOIS and the Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veteran and Social Affairs most relevantly the Sector for Protection of Persons with Disabilities, is of special importance.

The improved cooperation has had a particularly positive influence on the enactment of many antidiscrimination laws and other regulations of significance for the lives of persons with disabilities in Serbia, as well as their better implementation in practice.

In the previous period NOOIS also established important cooperation with international organizations of persons with disabilities, in particular with EDF. In fact, NOOIS became an associate member of EDF. The development of international cooperation has had a direct positive effect on the work of NOOIS and action of the disability movement in Serbia.

What is especially important for the status of persons with disabilities, our country has ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the accompanying Optional Protocol, and, in addition, almost all laws and other regulations have been harmonized with the Convention, primarily thanks to the advocacy work of NOOIS.

However, the changes in the normative sphere have not been fully reflected in everyday lives of persons with disabilities, and that is what NOOIS must be engaged in, in cooperation with the relevant state institutions. Our top priority is still greater support by the state and full implementation of the UN Convention in practice, i.e. continued improvement of the status of persons with disabilities.

With its current work and results, NOOIS has undoubtedly secured a leading status in the disability movement in Serbia, but it can maintain that role in the future only by protecting the interests and rights of persons with disabilities, by being a partner in cooperation with decision-makers and by constantly innovating the forms and contents of its work aimed at the well-being and better status of persons with disabilities in Serbia.

Milan Stošić, NOOIS President

When was it established and who does it represent?

The National Organization of Persons with Disabilities of Serbia (NOOIS) was established on 22nd July 2007. Accordingly, the informal network of various organizations of persons with disabilities, which had existed for years, evolved into NOOIS as a formal network with a legal status, similar to many organizations in Europe. NOOIS is an “umbrella” organization representing more than 800.000 persons with disabilities and their legal representatives involved in:

- Associations of organizations of persons with individual types of disabilities
- Organizations of legal representatives of persons with disabilities, and
- Interest organizations gathering persons with various types of disabilities (so-called cross-disability organizations)

Why was it established?

- To represent the united movement of persons with disabilities of Serbia, speak on behalf of the majority of persons with disabilities and their legal representatives, and constitute the strongest force in advocating their common interests and needs
- The role of the National Organization is not to replace individual organizations of persons with disabilities (Associations and other organizations), but to focus on mutual actions, initiatives and matters of general interest

NOOIS mission

Increasing inclusion of persons with disabilities in the society, full respect of human rights and non-discrimination on the basis of disability by creating partnership between the united disability rights movement and the state in terms of adopting and implementing disability laws and other documents in compliance with international standards and documents.



**National Organization of
Persons with Disabilities of Serbia**



**Ministry of Labour, Employment,
Veteran and Social Affairs**

DECEMBER 3, 2017

**International Day of Persons with Disabilities
and 10 years since the establishment of NOOIS**



NOOIS goals

- Unified advocacy of interests of persons with disabilities in Serbia
- Protection and promotion of fundamental human rights
- Improvement of the status of persons with disabilities by implementing national strategies, laws and policies in the sphere of disability and the reform of national legislation in compliance with the human rights principles
- Struggle against prejudice and discrimination based on disability and full participation, equality and social inclusion of persons with disabilities in Serbia
- Strengthening the cooperation among NOOIS member organizations and supporting the development of their individual capacities
- Acceptance of international and European disability standards, principles and documents and their application in Serbia in Serbia
- Development of the cooperation and participation in the international disability rights movement

NOOIS values

- Application of European and UN standards in the field of human rights of persons with disabilities
- Non-discrimination
- Equal opportunities for persons with disabilities
- Promotion of accessibility and universal design in the field of physical environment, transportation, information and communications
- Independence and representativeness
- Mutual cooperation
- Responsibility
- Internal democratic structure and connections with member-organizations

Membership in international organizations

NOOIS is also active in the International Disability Movement. Since its establishment NOOIS has been an associate member of Europe's largest and most important umbrella organization – European Disability Forum (EDF) and a member of the Disability People International (DPI).

NOOIS structure

NOOIS structure consists of the Assembly, Executive and Supervisory Boards, as well as the President, two Vice-Presidents and the Executive Director.

Three categories of membership

Full members

These may be organizations fulfilling the following conditions:

- If they accept as members or represent the majority of or the largest number of persons with individual types of disabilities and organizations gathering persons with different types of disabilities for the purpose of resolving specific issues,
- If they have minimum 500 regular members, persons with disabilities, except for organizations that accept as members and represent persons with specific rare disease,
- If they have a network of minimum 5 local and regional organizations,
- If they act in the territory of the Republic of Serbia or at least in its larger part and
- If they exist and operate for minimum 5 years.

Associate members

These may be organizations of persons with disabilities which:

- Deal with certain specific issues of interest for persons with disabilities,
- Operate in the entire territory of Serbia or in its larger part,
- Have minimum 50 of persons with disabilities among their members and
- Exist and operate for minimum 3 years.

Supporting members

Supporting members include legal and natural entities whose work or donations contribute to the realization of the goals of the National Organization.

NOOIS member-organizations

- Union of the Blind of Serbia
- Deaf Union of Serbia
- Association of Cerebral Paralysis and Polio of Serbia
- Muscular Dystrophy Association of Serbia
- Association of Paraplegics and Quadriplegics of Serbia
- Multiple Sclerosis Association of Serbia
- Union of Associations for Assistance to Persons with Intellectual Disabilities of Serbia
- Association for Assistance to Persons with Autism of Serbia
- Association for Assistance to Persons with Down syndrome in Serbia
- Association of Labour Disabled Workers of Serbia
- Union of Associations of Kidney Patients of the Republic of Serbia
- Union of Association of Persons with Amputate and Limbs of Serbia
- Centre for Independent Living of Persons with Disabilities of Serbia
- Network... OUT OF CIRCLE - Serbia





**National Organization of
Persons with Disabilities of Serbia**



**Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veteran and
Social Affairs**



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**BELGRADE
FAIR**

OCTOBER 21-28, 2018

NOOIS most important activities

Legislation and advocacy

Since its establishment NOOIS has become an active partner to the representatives of legislative and executive power. In cooperation with them, as well as with independent state authorities, NOOIS has advocated to submit hundreds of draft amendments to a large number of laws, many of which have become part of the legislative regulations and practice. Moreover, NOOIS participates in the preparation of amendments and supplements to the regulations, proposes amendments to the relevant Assembly boards, takes active part in the enactment of new laws, bylaws and strategic documents in work groups for the preparation of various regulations (e.g. the Law on Ratification of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Law on Social Welfare and related bylaws, the Law on the Use of the Sign Language in Serbia, Law on Professional Rehabilitation and Employment of Persons with Disabilities, the Law on Movement Using Guide-Dogs, the Strategy for Improving the Position of Persons with Disabilities etc.).

Monitoring the implementation of regulations and cooperation with state institutions and independent bodies

NOOIS continuously monitors the implementation of adopted regulations, takes action before relevant authorities in cases of non-implementation of the provisions of the laws, demands the interpretation of regulations, participates in the work of the Council for Persons with Disabilities within the Ombudsman's Office, as well as in the Council for Monitoring the Implementation of the Recommendations of UN Human Rights Mechanisms. It is also a member of the Platform of Organizations for Cooperation with UN Human Rights Mechanisms.

Reacting to the violation of human rights and discrimination cases

NOOIS reacts to discriminatory behaviour or statements of individuals, addresses the public on such occasions, and files complaints against discrimination cases to the Commissioner for the Protection of Equality and the Ombudsman's Office.



Publishing and educational activities – publications (publishers and co-publishers):

- Guide through the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (several editions)
- Fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Law on the Prohibition of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities (proceedings)
- Writing project proposals in accordance with the EU guidelines
- Proceedings from the Summer School: Prohibition of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities, and other publications
- Ensuring Access to Media for Everyone
- General Comment of the UN Committee for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities No. 5 – Article 19 –independent life and inclusion in the community
- Situational Analysis of the Position of Children with Disabilities in Serbia
- Analysis of the implementation of the recommendations of the CRPD in the Republic of Serbia
- General Comment of the UN Committee for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities – Recommendation No. 6 about equality and non-discrimination
- General Comment of the UN Committee for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities - Recommendation No. 7 about consultations with organizations of persons with disabilities and monitoring the implementation of the Convention at national level
- Disability Etiquette

Media activities of NOOIS and activities aimed at informing about the status and rights of persons with disabilities and raising awareness about disabilities

NOOIS is constantly present in the media, both electronic and printed ones. In line with the current events, we publish statements and press releases. Our representatives regularly participate in different professional gatherings. We publish information on NOOIS webpage and in social media. The most important campaigns aimed at raising awareness about the rights of persons with disabilities realized by NOOIS are INTEGRITY and EMPLOYMENT.





International activities

NOOIS regularly participates in the EDF meetings, ad hoc cooperates and participates in international conferences and meetings organized by the UN, European Commission, Joint Consultative Committee (JCC) and others. NOOIS intensively develops and supports regional cooperation – with umbrella organizations in Slovenia, Croatia and Macedonia and also takes part in various regional gatherings.



The cooperation with the Committee for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities is of special importance. In September 2015 in Geneva, the European seat of the UN, NOOIS presented the alternative report about the implementation of the UN Convention at the 14th Autumn Session. The alternative report was submitted by the National Organization of Persons with Disabilities in coalition with the Centre for Independent Life of Persons with Disabilities of Serbia (CIL Serbia).





In April 2016, NOOIS representatives submitted additional comments about Serbia's answers to the list of questions sent by the Committee to the Government of the Republic of Serbia, after the submission of the initial and alternative reports, and during the session they actively participated in the dialogue with the Committee members. The entire process of monitoring the implementation of the Convention and reporting, both by the state and by the civil society, constitutes an additional mechanism for establishing not only a better legal framework, but also the removal of the largest number of barriers in practice and deficiencies in the implementation of the regulations.



Most important partners

The Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veteran and Social Affairs– the Sector for Protection of Persons with Disabilities – is the most important partner which supports the overall work and activities of NOOIS, other Associations and organizations of persons with disabilities from their network throughout Serbia.

Other important partners include:



THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA
Ministry of Labour, Employment,
Veteran and Social Affairs
Sector for Protection of Persons with Disabilities



**National Assembly
of the Republic of Serbia**



**MINISTRY OF CULTURE
AND INFORMATION**



**Emergency Management Sector of
the Ministry of Internal
Affairs of the Republic of Serbia**



Office of the Ombudsman



**COMMISSIONER
FOR PROTECTION
OF EQUALITY**



**Office for Human and
Minority Rights**



Secretariat for Social Welfare



**Regulatory Authority for
Electronic Media**



Office UN in Serbia



NOOIS campaigns



2. САЈАМ Ј=ДНАКИ



J=ДНАКИ

БЕОГРАДСКИ САЈАМ
Хала ЗА
23 - 27. 10. 2019. године

#INTEGRITET



"Priručnik za ponašanje u vandrednim situacijama"
audio verzija



Organizacija za evropsku
bezbednost i saradnju
Mirova u Srbiji



ovakvog načina prihvataju politiku u skladu sa Odborom i u skladu sa Akcijom Švedske u okviru projekta "Evropski procesi
jednakosti i jednak bezbednosti u Republici Srbiji". Projekat je finansirao srpski državni sekretar za ljudska prava i
unapređivanje statusa osoba sa invaliditetom u Srbiji. Odbor i u Srbiji i Švedska agencija za međunarodnu saradnju.



Invalidska kolica

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1. MART - MEĐUNARODNI DAN
INVALIDSKIH KOLICA - NOOIS

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NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES OF SERBIA

NOOIS MEMBER - ORGANIZATIONS



Union of the Blind of Serbia



Muscular Dystrophy
Association of Serbia



Union of Association of Persons
with Amputate and Limbs of Serbia



Deaf Union of Serbia



Association of Paraplegics and
Quadriplegics of Serbia



Union of Associations of Kidney
Patients of the Republic of Serbia



Union of Associations for
Assistance to Persons with
Intellectual Disabilities of Serbia



Association of Cerebral Paralysis
and Polio of Serbia



Centre for Independent Living of
Persons with Disabilities of
Serbia



Association for Assistance to
Persons with Autism of Serbia



Multiple Sclerosis Association
of Serbia



Network... OUT OF CIRCLE - Serbia



Association for Assistance to
Persons with Down syndrome in
Serbia



Association of Labour Disabled
Workers of Serbia

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NOOIS SERBIA

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