

# BEFORE MY PRESENTATION BEGINS, I HAVE A REQUEST

Unfortunately, I don't have a sign language interpreter, today. I therefore communicate in sign language and I ask you to read.

In case there are blind or visually impaired participants, I would appreciate if somebody read the presentation out to them. It would be a pity if we had to exclude someone.

Thank you!

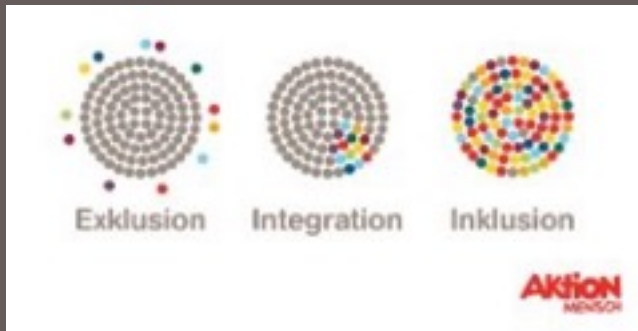


Inclusion – a  
challenge for  
disaster  
prevention

A problem is a  
challenge for you to  
do your best.

Duke Ellington

# WHAT IS MEANT BY INCLUSION?



Inclusion is a human right embedded in the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. By signing this agreement, Germany is only at the beginning of a long process to put inclusion to practice.



**Inclusion – a challenge for disaster prevention**

**Inklusion means unlimited access to our environment for everyone.**

**By more acceptance, openness, tolerance and a better cooperation, we build the basis for an inclusive society.**

**“Nothing About Us Without Us”**

**If you want inclusion, you'll find a way. If you don't, you'll find excuses.**

**Hubert Hüppe**

## BUT STILL TODAY...

...projects are started in order to find solutions for persons **with** disabilities **without** involving persons with disabilities.

...in the field of education, culture and politics, persons with disabilities are still being treated as supplicants.

## WE DON'T WANT A SPECIAL POSITION...

...we want the economic, cultural, spatial, social and institutional inclusion.



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The way in which we  
treat minorities is the  
measure of civilization of  
a society.

Mahatma Gandhi

# PEOPLE WITH HEARING IMPAIRMENTS

There is just one concise remark that gets  
to the heart of it:

**“Not being able to see isolates you from  
objects. Not being able to hear isolates  
you from people.” Immanuel Kant**

## The significance of HEARING

- warning function
- orientation
- language acquisition
- receiving additional information on  
social and emotional level



**Inclusion – a  
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prevention**

**Too many people fail  
to realize that real  
communication goes  
in both directions.**

**Lee Lacocca**

# PEOPLE WITH HEARING IMPAIRMENTS

People with hearing impairments may be deaf, hard of hearing or late-deafened. However, they have one thing in common: they need aids and assistance in order to communicate.

- technical aids (hearing aids, flashing lights etc.)
- human resources (interpreters, communication assistants and others)

There are about **80,000 deaf people** in the Federal Republic of Germany. According to the German federation of the hard of hearing, Deutscher Schwerhörigenbund, there are approx. **16 million** hard of hearing people. About **140,000** of them are having a degree of disability of **more than 70 percent** and depend on sign language interpreters.



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# THOUGHTS ON IMPLEMENTATION

In 2013, the German Deaf Association, Deutscher Gehörlosenbund, published a brochure on disaster prevention which is no longer available, unfortunately.



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From my point of view, the following  
issues are of importance:

# THOUGHTS ON IMPLEMENTATION

- **sensitisation of coordinating units  
subject: communication**
- **a national disaster alert for people  
with hearing impairments**
- **information portal on prevention and  
procedures of disaster situations  
(barrier-free app or website)**
- **technical requirements for barrier-free  
alert**



**Inclusion – a  
challenge for  
disaster  
prevention**

The existence of  
language as a language  
system is also possible  
without speech (spoken  
language).  
Summary of the  
definition of the nature  
of language

J. de Saussure

# THOUGHTS ON IMPLEMENTATION

**At present, people with hearing impairments are only entitled to communication aids or assistance in case of administrative procedures.**

**Information, prevention and aids in the event of a disaster are no administrative procedures though.**

**Conclusion: no communication aids**

**But we know that here is the potential to avoid consequential damages.**



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We want to work together on solutions for an effective implementation in the field of prevention.

For us, the focus is on information to prepare for emergency cases. These measures in schools and associations are a very important issue.

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There are many cheap and expensive technical inventions for an easier and less dangerous life.

We seek useful solutions.



Inclusion – a challenge for disaster prevention



Inclusion – a  
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disaster  
prevention

We are pleased to be your contact in  
terms of implementation.

- sensitisation films or face-to-face teaching
- in-vision sign language and subtitles for information films
- coordination of interpreters
- consulting service for issues such as legal claims and others

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# THANK YOU



**... it would be nice if there were just  
“disasters“ like this ...**



**Inclusion – a  
challenge for  
disaster  
prevention**

In the farewell the breath  
of the memory is located.

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Please remember us.

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