



European
Social
Charter

Charte
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COUNCIL OF EUROPE

CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

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EUROPEAN SOCIAL CHARTER

5th National Report on the implementation of
the European Social Charter

submitted by

THE GOVERNMENT OF MALTA

(Additional information on Article 15
for the period 01/01/2007 – 31/12/2010)

Report registered by the Secretariat on 2 October 2012

CYCLE 2012

Article 15 – The right of persons with disabilities to independence, social integration and participation in the life of the community

With a view to ensuring to persons with disabilities, irrespective of age and the nature and origin of their disabilities, the effective exercise of the right to independence, social integration and participation in the life of the community, the Parties undertake, in particular:

1. to take the necessary measures to provide persons with disabilities with guidance, education and vocational training in the framework of general schemes wherever possible or, where this is not possible, through specialised bodies, public or private;
2. to promote their access to employment through all measures tending to encourage employers to hire and keep in employment persons with disabilities in the ordinary working environment and to adjust the working conditions to the needs of the disabled or, where this is not possible by reason of the disability, by arranging for or creating sheltered employment according to the level of disability. In certain cases, such measures may require recourse to specialised placement and support services;
3. to promote their full social integration and participation in the life of the community in particular through measures, including technical aids, aiming to overcome barriers to communication and mobility and enabling access to transport, housing, cultural activities and leisure.

Article 15§1 - Additional Information

- 1) Please describe the general legal framework. Please specify the nature of, reasons for and extent of any reforms.

The Equal Opportunities Act prohibits discrimination on the grounds of disability in different aspects of life including education and training. KNPD is vested with the role of investigating allegations of discrimination, and taking any necessary measures, including legal action.

KNPD has also been appointed the independent mechanism of the UN Convention on the Rights of Person with Disabilities. (CRPD), which Malta is set to ratify soon and which includes education in its remit.

- 2) Please indicate the measures taken (administrative arrangements, programmes, action plans, projects, etc.) to implement the legal framework.

I AM ENCLOSING A COPY OF OUR LATEST EOA REPORT WHICH INCLUDES DETAILS OF CASES OF DISCRIMINATION REGARDING EDUCATION. A DESCRIPTION OF THE MAIN COMPLAINTS IS FOUND ON PAGES 15 TO 17 OF THE PDF DOCUMENT, WHILE ON PAGES 52-56 THERE IS A TABLE WITH RELEVANT STATISTICS.

EOA Report - <http://www.knpd.org/pubs/pdf/eoarpt11m.pdf>

- 3) Please provide pertinent figures, statistics or any other relevant information to demonstrate effective access to education and vocational training for persons with disabilities (total number of persons with disabilities, number of persons with disabilities of 0-18 years of age, number of persons with disabilities in mainstreaming and special education and vocational training, including higher education; number of integrated classes and special education institutions, basic and in-service training for teachers).

I AM ENCLOSING A COPY OF OUR LATEST ANNUAL REPORT WHICH INCLUDES STATISTICS OF DISABLED PERSONS REGISTERED WITH KNPD, HOWEVER PLEASE NOTE THAT THESE RELATE TO A VOLUNTARY REGISTER. FOR STATISTICS ON THW WHOLE POPULATION REFER TO NSO WHO WILL PUBLISH PRELIM FINDINGS FROM 2011CENSUS NEXT WEEK.

KNPD Annual Report - http://www.knpdarchives.org/reports/ar_2011mt.pdf

Article 15§2 - Additional Information

- 1) Please describe the general legal framework. Please specify the nature of, reasons for and extent of any reforms.

NOTE: PLEASE REFER TO SECTION 15.2 (1).

PLEASE SEE EOA REPORT REGARDING CASES OF DISCRIMINATION RELATED TO EMPLOYMENT. A DESCRIPTION OF THE MAIN COMPLAINTS IS FOUND ON PAGES 12 TO 15 OF THE PDF DOCUMENT, WHILE ON PAGES 49-52 THERE IS A TABLE WITH RELEVANT STATISTICS.

- 2) Please indicate the measures taken (administrative arrangements, programmes, action plans, projects, etc.) to implement the legal framework.

In 2010, KNPD published the Policy on the Employment of Persons with Disability ([enclosed](#)) which sets out a number of recommendations.

[Employment Policy - http://www.knpdarchives.org/reports/ar_2011mt.pdf](http://www.knpdarchives.org/reports/ar_2011mt.pdf)

Article 15§3

- 1) Please describe the general legal framework. Please specify the nature of, reasons for and extent of any reforms.

PLEASE REFER TO SECTION 15.2 (1).

THE EOA AND CRPD ALSO COVER ACCESS TO GOODS, SERVICES AND FACILITIES, PHYSICAL ACCESSIBILITY AND ACCESS TO INFORMATION

ALSO PLEASE SEE EOA REPORT REGARDING CASES OF DISCRIMINATION RELATED TO ACCESS TO GOODS, SERVICES AND FACILITIES. A DESCRIPTION OF THE MAIN COMPLAINTS IS FOUND ON PAGES 28 TO 30 OF THE PDF DOCUMENT AND PAGES 31-33 RE INSURANCE, WHILE ON PAGES 68-74 AND 75-76 THERE IS THE RELEVANT TABLE.

REGARDING PHYSICAL ACCESSIBILITY SEE PAGES 17-28 AND PAGES 56-68 FOR TABLE.

- 2) Please indicate the measures taken (administrative arrangements, programmes, action plans, projects, etc.) to implement the legal framework.

KNPD's Servizz Ghajnuniet Speċjali (Assistive Apparatus Fund) subsidises the purchase of assistive equipment. The Malta Community Chest Fund also provides subsidies in this regard.

KNPD's Sonia Tanti Independent Living Centre provides assessment, advice and support in the purchase of assistive equipment, as well as driving assessments, and motoring lessons on adapted vehicles through the Adaptive Driving Motoring School.

- 3) Please provide pertinent figures, statistics or any other relevant information on persons with disabilities' access to housing, transport, telecommunications and cultural and leisure activities.

ENCLOSED PLEASE FIND OUR LATEST BIMONTHLY REPORT RE STATISTICS OF SERVICES GIVEN IN THE STILC -THIS BECAME FULLY OPERATIONAL THIS YEAR. SEE PAGES 9-10

ALSO SEE PAGES 27-29 IN OUR ANNUAL REPORT REGARDING SGHS AND OTHER SECTIONS RE OTHER SERVICES.

[Bimonthly Report - http://www.knpd.org/pubs/pdf/bimrep.pdf](http://www.knpd.org/pubs/pdf/bimrep.pdf)