

## Save the Date

### Conference on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 in Berlin „Inclusion: Ways Into Decent Work – A European Conference“

#### Main Information

Organiser: Senate Department for Integration, Labour and Social Services  
Date and time: 03.09.2018, 09.30am – 6.00pm followed by informal drinks  
Venue: Humboldt Carré, Behrenstraße 42, 10117 Berlin

The inclusion of people with disabilities in work is still not a matter of course. Severely disabled people are more than twice as likely to be affected by unemployment (12.4%) as people without disabilities (6.1%). This is mainly due to the fragmentation of responsibilities and counselling services but also due to a lack of knowledge about disability-specific opportunities, both on the part of employers as well as on the part of the persons affected. Such barriers to inclusion are also evident in the transition from school to work. In 2015, only 5.8% of people with disabilities in the age group between 18 and 25 had an apprenticeship training position in the general labour market. In the same year, there was a historic high of vacant apprenticeship positions. Particularly young people without a recognised severe disability, with mental health issues or other impairments, often need individual help at the transition. A large proportion of young people with disabilities continues to take part in external vocational training.

New regulations, approaches and individual offers are needed to facilitate ways into decent work. Digitalisation can also create new opportunities to improve the chances of participation in work. In education and training, for example, digital learning environments are on the rise and make individual offers possible. But digitalisation also carries risks such as automation, which makes certain jobs in the labour market obsolete.

At the legal level, the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities stipulates participation in working life as a central issue. In Germany, the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities will be implemented through the Federal Participation Act, of which the first two stages of reform have already come into force. The creation and development of equal opportunities for disadvantaged groups, including people with disabilities, are also a main focus of the dialogue process "Work 4.0 - made in Berlin" of the Senate Department for Integration, Labour and Social Services. The goal is to create new, improved access to work and training through processes of digitalisation in the workplace.

The international conference "Inclusion: Ways into Decent Work - A European Conference" will focus on the above topics and discuss current developments and solutions with representatives from politics, interest groups, business, science and civil society. The aim of the conference is to facilitate a European exchange of experience and knowledge transfer in order to promote a more inclusive world of work, while taking into account current and future digital opportunities for people with disabilities. The conference will include lectures, panel discussions, workshops, an interactive marketplace as well as a diverse accompanying programme.

## Main topics

The following topics will be discussed during the conference:

- **The future of the current support system:** There will be discussions on the implementation of the Federal Participation Act and the new Budget for Work, thereby increasing publicity, awareness and transparency around the current support system.
- **Transitioning from school to work:** How can the transition from school to vocational education and training and the mainstream labour market be facilitated? Which new approaches, strategies and projects are being developed in Germany and other European countries and should be further tested?
- **Opportunities and risks of digitalisation:** Discussions between the different stakeholders will shed light on the opportunities and risks of digitalisation. There will also be an interactive marketplace where projects will be presented, offering a glimpse into the digital work of the present and future.
- **Inclusion in the world of work:** Good practice examples from Germany and other European countries will show how inclusion in the world of work can be made possible. The exchange will allow participants to learn from each other and discuss what they can implement together.

## Please save the date

If you are interested in attending the conference, please mark the date in your calendar. An invitation will be sent to you shortly.

Lectures will be translated into English, German, German Sign Language (DGS) and easy-to-understand German for people with learning disabilities.

## Contact us

For any further questions please get in touch with Karin Reichert from the Senate Department for Integration, Labour and Social Services ([Karin.Reichert@SenIAS.berlin.de](mailto:Karin.Reichert@SenIAS.berlin.de)) or Dr. Sarah Elsing from the Europe Agency ([sarah.elsing@qsub.de](mailto:sarah.elsing@qsub.de)).