

Sociocultural Inclusion

KEY CONCLUSIONS

Social settings have become accessible to people with disabilities

"The situation has shifted, and the attitude towards people with disabilities has changed. [...] Disabled people can play sports, participate in performances, dance in wheelchairs. We can develop in every possible way," - Elena Grekhova, Chairperson, Primorsky Territory Federation of Sports for People with Musculoskeletal Disorders.

"Every large-scale event makes the environment more accessible to us. [...] The environment is becoming more accessible for those who really need it to be," - Olesya Fedortsova, Director, Champion Kamchatka Sporting Dog Breeding Club.

People with disabilities should participate in making the environment accessible

"Inclusion is not movement in one direction. It's not only that we make our way into society, but society moves together with us. [...] Disabled people need also to be experts," - Yuri Bausov, Chairperson, Association of Youth Disability Organisations.

PROBLEMS

Information about opportunities for disabled people is lacking

"Much is due to ignorance of the law and the situation in which a disabled person can benefit an employer. In each case, it is a matter of individual work," - Olesya Fedortsova said.

Legislation does not take into account the particular characteristics of disabled people

"After studying the issues surrounding labour protection legislation, I realized that the law doesn't work for people with group one disabilities. [...] All laws relating to employment must be reviewed," - Elena Grekhova said.

Lack of knowledge on the part of disabled people about social activities

"Information is a very important topic. Even if there are sites, they are not always known, especially as regards children. Various programmes exist, including educational ones, social ones, which should include children, but we can't get them involved because the parents of these special children

don't know about the programmes," - Yulia Zimova, Member of the Civic Chamber of the Russian Federation.

Welfare mentality of the disabled as a result of isolation

"From the very start, unfortunately, we prepare a disabled person to be an isolated being in the literal sense of the word, and we are even the cause their dependency," - Yuri Bausov said.

Inaccessibility of special services for people with disabilities

"The main problem we face is the lack of a professional standard for audio description. There is no such occupation as Audio Describer accounted for within the labour legislation of this country," - Maria Antonova, Audio Describer.

SOLUTIONS

Increasing social activity

"A lot depends on [us] the disabled, and how active we are. Now we demand more from others. But what do we do for ourselves? It is important that we ourselves meet up to the levels we are demanding," - Yuri Bausov said.

Creating public spaces with disabled people in mind

"Both the human factor and the work of professionals complement the constructive possibilities of buildings," - Anna Yakovleva, Director of Primorsky Stage of the Mariinsky Theatre.

Supporting information channels for people with disabilities financially

"We are prepared to advertise on the radio, to advertise on television, but the cost makes it unrealistic. As a public organization, we simply cannot afford it," Elena Grekhova said.