

## Webinar

# Overcoming the impact of COVID19 on employment for persons with disabilities?

**10 February 2021 – 11 am CET**

### Context

The Covid-19 pandemic has worsened the employment context for all; but perhaps none more than for persons with disabilities. The situation of employment of persons with disabilities has long been an issue and with little progress over the last decade. Yet with the COVID-19 pandemic, many persons with disabilities lost their job and others struggle to stay in work. With unemployment rates predicted to be high in the years to come, there is a severe risk that the employment rates of persons with disabilities become even worse – not better – in the years to come.

Thus the issue of employment of persons with disabilities is as important as ever and should remain high up on the agenda of policy-makers across the continent. Action at all levels is required to not only mitigate the impact of COVID-19 but overcome some of the barriers that have been created.

In this regard, the social economy, businesses, employment services, civil society and policy makers and of course organisations of persons with disabilities are pro-actively working to overcome the existing barriers.

The following webinar will bring different stakeholders together to discuss the current situation of employment of persons with disabilities and what is needed to overcome the barriers created -directly or indirectly- by COVID-19.

### Draft Agenda

11h	Welcoming Remarks by - Luk Zelderloo, Secretary General EASPD
11h05	Panel Discussion  Moderated by Thomas Bignal, Policy Manager, EASPD  - Milan Šveřepa, Director, Inclusion Europe (tbc) - Sigrid Rand, Research Associate, Goethe University Frankfurt - Sabina Lobato Lobato, Director of Training, Employment, Operations & Transformation, Fundación ONCE, Spain - Christel Witgeers, Managing Director, EMINO, Belgium - Kathrin Völker, Manager, BAG WfbM, Germany - Jurgen Menze, Disability Inclusion Officer, International Labour Organisation  Q&A with Participants
11h55	Concluding Remarks by - Luk Zelderloo, Secretary General, EASPD

