

Nordic Youth Disability Summit 2023

Meeting report



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Foreword

This is a report on the results and implementations of the Nordic Youth Disability Summit, 2023 – the Nordic Council of Ministers' annual collaboration meetings with organisations for young people with disabilities. It presents statements developed during the summit on key topics in the [Nordic Council of Ministers' programme for cooperation on disability issues](#).

The summit resulted in statements from a youth perspective on inclusive working life, cross-border obstacles in the Nordic region, how to take into account the child and youth perspective in the Nordic Council of Ministers' policies and recommendations on inclusion in student democracy.

This report describes the involvement of organisations for young people with disabilities in selecting both the theme and the format of the summit. Moving forward, as we engage in continued collaboration with these organisations for our annual meetings, we aim to cultivate insights into effective methods for incorporating this demographic into decision-making processes that directly impact them.



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The Nordic Youth Disability Summit

The Nordic Youth Disability Summit is the Nordic Council of Ministers' annual collaboration meetings with youth disability organisations. The aim of the meetings is to strengthen the perspectives of children and youth in Nordic cooperation on disability issues.

The Nordic Programme for Cooperation on Disability Issues 2023–2027 lays out the Nordic Council of Ministers' cooperation strategy for disability. The programme includes an annual meeting of experts with representatives of interest groups for young people with disabilities in order to strengthen the perspective of children and young people in the Nordic cooperation on disability issues.

Youth disability organisations met in Copenhagen in October 2023 to discuss current issues and challenges and identify areas of cooperation. The Nordic Youth Disability Summit is a meeting between the Nordic Council of Ministers and young people with disabilities and will take place on an annual basis from 2023 to 2027.

During the summit the representatives of organisations for young people with disabilities prepared statements on relevant themes about Nordic cooperation on disability and contributed to formulating recommendations in a Nordic project on the right of children and young people to be heard.

“We need a stronger youth perspective in Nordic collaboration on disability issues”

“We need more flexibility in working life”

“We need clear information on accessibility when travelling in the Nordic region – and more flexibility when it comes to assistance”

The summit showed that youth disability organisations want to play a more active role in Nordic cooperation. The representatives proposed that youth representatives should be included in the Council of Nordic Cooperation on Disability. The summit was an important step in gathering the youth organisations, creating connections between them and laying a foundation for future cooperation.

The evaluation showed that the first Nordic Youth Disability Summit held in Copenhagen in October 2023 represented a significant step towards strengthening cooperation between youth organisations. The summit provided an opportunity for the representatives of the different organisations to share their experiences of organisational work and political issues. As a result of the summit, the representatives were given a Nordic network and have taken the initiative to create a digital meeting place. This is an important step towards fostering collaboration and communication between youth organisations in the Nordic region.

The 2024 summit will be planned in such a way that the representatives of youth disability organisations will attend one of the two annual meetings of the Council of Nordic Cooperation on Disability.



Ella Schauman with assistant Sari Vesa-Sandell, Cecilia Ingves and Cornelia Flood at one of the workshops.

READ MORE

[Nordic youth disability organisations ready to cooperate in a more active way](#)



Statement: Youth disability perspective

"We need a stronger youth perspective in Nordic cooperation on disability"

The Nordic Programme for Cooperation on Disability Issues 2023 to 2027 emphasises that it is essential that the Nordic region successfully integrates the perspectives of gender equality, children and young people, and disability. In order to strengthen the perspective of children and young people in Nordic cooperation on disability issues for the programme period from 2023 to 2027, an annual meeting of experts will be organised with representatives of interest groups for young people with disabilities.

The participants in the Nordic Youth Disability Summit all agree that youth cooperation is needed. In their opinion, collaboration with young people must be strengthened, and there is a desire to find more permanent forms of collaboration. One potential solution was to include youth representatives in the Council of Nordic Cooperation on Disability in order to achieve continuity and ensure that youth organisations are kept updated.

Focus area: Human rights



The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UN CRPD) aims to promote, protect and ensure that all persons with disabilities have full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as to promote respect for their inherent value. All the Nordic countries have ratified the UN CRPD and implemented the convention's principles and norms.

Read more in the programme: [Human rights](#)

Statement on how to safeguard the perspective of children and young people with disabilities in the implementation of Programme 2023–2027

1. Organisations for young people with disabilities want to have eight seats on the disability council!

- a. A seat for each Nordic country is the only way to safeguard the perspective.
- b. The youth want to be equal members. It's difficult to safeguard on a distance.
- c. If they are not equal members of the disability council, how will organisations for young people with disabilities know whether the Disability Council heard their voices?
- d. It's important that each Nordic country has a seat of its own. The Nordic countries are diversified and the infrastructure is different. Not all of them have an "adult" organisation.
- e. Having a seat for each country will strengthen the collaboration between countries and also between youth organisations and "adult organisations".

2. No adult member should select on which topics to involve the children and young people's perspective. Organisations for young people with disabilities have perspectives on all different subjects!

a. Organisations for young people with disabilities bring knowledge, creativity, energy and diversity.

3. It is important that organisations for young people with disabilities get enough time to prepare for meetings of the Disability Council.

a. Organisations for young people with disabilities have many members and many member organisations to hear and involve in the preparation of the meetings.

b. Organisations for young people with disabilities should of course have all materials about every meeting.

c. All materials regarding meetings in the Disability Council should of course be in accessible formats safeguarding accessibility for all sorts of disabilities.

The EU has young delegates from each country, so there is inspiration from the EU. There is also a young delegate with a disability from each country.

The Nordic Committee for Children and Young People, NORDBUK, could also give inspiration on how to safeguard the perspectives of organisations for young people with disabilities.



Statement: A flexible working life

"We need more flexibility in working life"

On the last day of the summit, an expert seminar on inclusion in working life was organised with a focus on how we can take advantage of the great opportunities offered by digital and technological developments to increase inclusion.

This is a significant topic for youth organisations and they were asked to give an introductory presentation at this expert seminar. The youth representatives prepared a statement during the summit that formed the basis of their introduction at the expert seminar.

Focus area: Participation



The sustainable development of the Nordic welfare model is based on the ability of as many working age people as possible to be in employment. The labour market is a driving force in Nordic welfare societies and is of key importance to the business sector, as well as to individuals. A large and skilled workforce, good working conditions and a good work environment are crucial for creating a green, competitive and socially sustainable Nordic region. This requires an inclusive education and labour market policy. It also requires information initiatives and efforts to change the attitudes of employers, employees and society at large in order to provide opportunities for people with disabilities to establish themselves in the labour market.

Read more in the programme: [Participation](#)

Statement for the inclusive workplace expert seminar, the future, technology, opportunities, and solutions

Flexibility:

In order to create an inclusive workplace for youth with disabilities, we need more flexibility.

During the pandemic we saw that not only is it possible to work more from home, it can also be very beneficial to a lot of people, including youth with disabilities. Being able to structure your own week and work from home most days or some days can lead to more autonomy and freedom to regulate your day in terms of social stimulation, energy, pain, concentration and health situation to suit your needs.

Furthermore, we need flexible working hours. A lot of people with disabilities have more healthcare appointments compared to other people, including doctors' visits and physiotherapy, to mention a few. Staying healthy is important to us and our well-being, and from a societal point of view — to ensure we can work for a long time! However, if we have to use our vacation days, work overtime or lose income for the time we spend at the doctors, some might end up not prioritising healthcare appointments at all.

We also need flexibility when it comes to assistance. Different countries organise personal assistants and work assistants in different ways. However, we all experience a lack of flexibility. We want to be able to take our personal assistants to work, and we want to have enough hours covered so that we can do our jobs and also enjoy our leisure time the way we prefer.

Lastly, we need flexibility when it comes to our welfare benefits and measures. In general, we find that the balance between the number of hours a disabled person can work while receiving welfare benefits and disability allowance or other financial measures is strict, rigid and not based on individual needs and resources. A lot of young people actually find it easiest not work than to work to the max of their individual capability. That is not beneficial for either the individual or from a socio-economic perspective.

Information:

The second key to an inclusive workplace is information. As employees we need information concerning our rights and our opportunities. At the same time employers also need more information about accessibility, rights, prejudice and attitudes in order to create an inclusive working environment. Ideally, we would like to have contact persons with knowledge about the rights of people with disabilities, opportunities, accessibility and solutions to guide employees with disabilities and employers who want to make their workplace more inclusive and accessible.

"One step behind our peers"

Lastly, as youth with disabilities we often end up being one step behind our peers. In most of our countries youth with disabilities struggle to find accessible parttime jobs, and working while studying fulltime is not a possibility for everyone. As a result, youth with disabilities often struggle to find a job due to a "lack of work experience". Moreover, we need guarantees of accommodation from social services. If you get a job but need workplace accommodations, aids or other facilitation measures in order to do the job, many disabled employees find that the processing time to get these accommodations, aids or other facilitation measures is so long that they might end up losing the job or starting much later than planned. With guarantees, you know that that the necessary workplace accommodations will be given to you when you get a job, and you won't have to start the process of getting the necessary workplace accommodations after you've got the job.

Read more:

[New technology makes the labour market more inclusive, but several big challenges lay ahead](#)



Statement: Accessibility and mobility

"We need clear information on accessibility when travelling in the Nordic region – and more flexibility when it comes to assistance"

The Secretariat of the Nordic Council of Ministers' Freedom of Movement Council presented the Nordic work on removing barriers to freedom of movement to the representatives of organisations for young people with disabilities. The representatives were asked to make a statement about their experiences of cross-border obstacles in the Nordic region, and what barriers they see to travelling in the region.

In line with The Nordic Programme for Cooperation on Disability 2023 to 2027, freedom of movement will be a recurring theme at the annual summits for young people with disabilities.

Focus area: Freedom of movement



Raising awareness of and breaking down barriers to freedom of movement across country borders is a priority area of Nordic Cooperation. The EU is also making a special effort to break down barriers for people with disabilities. Activities in this area promote freedom of movement for people who are at risk of being hindered by barriers to freedom of movement due to laws, rules, and administrative practices in the Nordic countries.

Read more in the programme: [Freedom of movement](#)

Statement to the Nordic Council of Ministers' Freedom of Movement Council

What barriers do you face when travelling in the Nordic region, studying in another Nordic country, or moving within the Nordic region?

Nordic youth representatives of organisations for young people with disabilities agree that there are two overarching barriers to travelling, studying or moving within the Nordic region: lack of information and restrictions on bringing personal assistants.

In general, youth with disabilities find it hard to obtain information about accessibility, their rights and their opportunities. Furthermore, they also feel that key contact persons such as student councillors/coordinators, housing coordinators, potential employers etc. also lack the necessary information and knowledge of accessibility, rights and opportunities for persons with disabilities.

When studying in another Nordic country, youth with disabilities often have questions about what kind of facilitation possibilities universities offer, what programmes are accessible, whether affordable and accessible housing is available, what type of assistance arrangement is it possible to get, etc. Furthermore, when working in another Nordic country, youth with disabilities have similar questions about accessible working environments and assistance schemes. And lastly, for travelling or moving to another Nordic country, there are questions about accessibility, as well as the need for more information about the situation for disabled people in that particular country.

In general, it's very hard to find information about accessibility and rights when travelling or moving. Not knowing before you get there is a huge barrier to travelling or moving, because it means that you cannot plan or prepare.

The second overarching barrier is the right to bring your personal aids or assistants. In general, youth with disabilities from every Nordic country experience restriction or law about funding or the right to bring assistants to another country. Some are allowed to bring assistants but can't afford them because they must pay for them themselves. Others can only be accompanied by their personal assistants to another country for a restricted period. This makes it virtually impossible to study or work in another country, especially if you aren't provided with the necessary personal assistants in the Nordic country in which you want to study.

Concerning both the lack of information and restrictions on bringing personal assistants, two solutions were suggested. First, youth with disabilities want a more formal and generalised way of assessing accessibility in the Nordic countries, as well as a platform, such as an international website or app, where they can easily obtain information about accessibility. Some of the participants suggested that fire inspectors or food or health authorities could check accessibility measures when also checking for fire hazards, or food or health measures. This service would need to be publicly funded in order to stay available and updated. Secondly, youth with disabilities want an EU disability card, similar to an EU health card, which states that you have right to the same aid, assistance and rights as you do in your own country.

In addition to the overarching barriers mentioned above, youth with disabilities also pointed out that they still experience discrimination and prejudice in the labour market and work environment. Having experienced discrimination and prejudice, or the fear of experiencing this, creates a barrier to working generally, but especially to working in another country where they are unfamiliar with the culture, their rights and their opportunities. Furthermore, the lack of flexibility in laws regulating the welfare of people with disabilities was also described as a barrier.

Youth with disabilities often feel that their individual needs are not met unless their needs fit into a box. Some examples of laws and regulations that are perceived as inflexible and therefore a barrier to move, travel or study in another Nordic country are laws and regulations regulating personal assistance, scholarships and student housing, to name a few.



Current issues and challenges for youth with disabilities

The representatives of organisations for young people with disabilities exchanged and discussed key issues and challenges. The list of key issues and themes was presented to the Disability Council and the Secretariat of the Nordic Council of Ministers.

Key issues/agendas

- Bullying
- Loneliness
- Peer support
 - Important and powerful to meet others with similar or different disabilities.
 - Peer support could be something for disability organisations for young people to work together on.
- Following the political "track" means that the issues must both be addressed to the disability council and worked on by disability organisations for young people.
 - Employment/working life
 - Educational politics
 - Personal assistance
 - Making a Nordic model; take the best elements from the different Nordic countries.
- Travelling
 - Accessibility
 - Personal assistance

READ MORE

[Accessibility, housing and jobs are common challenges for youth with disabilities in the Nordic region](#)



Creating inclusive student councils with power

The representatives of organisations for young people with disabilities and the Nordic expert group – Children and young people's right to be heard, the consequences of the corona crisis, had a productive workshop on the issue: How can the work of student councils be strengthened in a way that contributes to an equal and inclusive learning environment for all students, especially young people in vulnerable life situations and children and young people with disabilities?

Together they produced the following recommendations:

Further development of student council work in the Nordic region – lessons learnt from the pandemic on the right of children and young people to be heard

The Nordic Welfare Centre is currently investigating how student councils in the Nordic region can become more influential and inclusive. The aim of the investigation is to prepare a report on how educational institutions in the Nordic region can use student councils to strengthen children and young people's right to be seen, heard and involved in all matters that affect them, in accordance with Article 12 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

We have started gathering recommendations for the report from civil society organisations for children and young people. The recommendations will be published in a report, along with updated research and promising practices. The first recommendations were collected at the Nordic Youth Disability Summit in Copenhagen in 2023.

Action points from the Nordic Youth Disability Summit, Copenhagen 2023

- **Space, place and time**
 - Meetings should take place at a time and place that suits all children, and all children should be able to attend meetings without negative consequences. For instance, student council meetings should take place outside school hours, so that the students will not be missing lessons if attending.
- **Information**
 - More information is needed for students about the role of student councils, how they work and their influence on decisions made at school.
 - Strengthen the expertise of students and teachers in leading decision-making processes.
 - School management must have knowledge of the role of student councils and students' right to participation and influence at school.

- **Strengthen democracy work with students**
 - There is a need to increase the legitimacy of student councils by ensuring democratic and inclusive nomination, voting and election of student representatives.
 - The nomination and election of student councillors must be formal and inclusive. It is often the case that there is limited representation of persons with disabilities. Perhaps they should have a separate seat on the student council?
 - Educational institutions must ensure that students who are not elected to student councils can still offer their input and convey their opinions to the council. This can be done by appointing working groups.
 - A representative student council allows everyone to be heard. The election process can be intimidating for many students, and it can be difficult to participate in the process.
- **New ways to empower student councils**
 - Give students the opportunity to express their views on various issues.
 - Educational institutions must strive for more continuity if their student council's work is to be effective.
 - Schools should involve students and ask them for their views on all issues that affect them on a regular basis.
- **Inclusive student democracy in schools**
 - School institutions need to ensure that the conditions for inclusion are in place on a structural level. This cannot be the responsibility of students because they are in the process of becoming democratic citizens, and teachers/schools are their guides.
 - Inclusion must be a goal of school institutions and they must be prepared to support this goal in whatever way necessary.
 - Accessibility should be improved to support participation. All student council activities should be accessible to all, regardless of disability.
 - Mental health issues should be taken into account. Students should be seen as individuals and not put into boxes See all students as individuals and don't put them into boxes based on their academic achievements.

- **Quality of participation in times of crises**

Many of the success factors for child and youth participation are the same, regardless of whether there is a crisis such as the Covid-19 pandemic. The structures and measures that need to be in place should follow the nine principles for meaningful participation developed by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, for schools' special attention should be given on realising the requirements in education and school ([General Comment No. 12, chapter 4, pages 21–22](#)). The principles are developed in [General Comment No. 12 to the Convention on the Rights of the Child \(2009\)](#) and comprise fundamental conditions that should guide all processes in which children are involved. Even though the principles have been developed with children under 18 in mind, the principles are also relevant for participatory processes with youth over 18 years of age.



The participants in the workshop about inclusive student councils.

READ MORE

[Creating inclusive student councils with power – learning from the pandemic](#)



Six collaboration meetings, one workshop and one seminar

The Nordic Youth Disability Summit comprised several collaboration meetings in which different policy and business areas, councils and expert groups in the Nordic Council of Ministers had the opportunity to discuss current issues and topics with representatives of organisations for young people with disabilities.

The following cooperation meetings and workshop were held:

1. Collaboration meeting on the funding scheme for increased collaboration in the Nordic region

Participants:

- Representatives of organisations for young people with disabilities
- Kai Koivumäki, Deputy Director and Operations manager, Secretariat for the Funding Scheme, Nordic Welfare Centre

Agenda:

- How the funding scheme can help develop cooperation between organisations for young people with disabilities in the Nordic region.

READ MORE

[The Funding Scheme](#)

2. Workshop – The Nordic expert group and Nordic youth representatives of organisations for young people with disabilities

Participants:

- Representatives of organisations for young people with disabilities
- The Nordic expert group – Children and young people's right to be heard, the consequences of the corona crisis
- Merethe Løberg, Senior Adviser, Children and youth, Nordic Welfare Centre

Agenda:

- How can the work of student councils be strengthened in a way that contributes to an equal and inclusive learning environment for all students, especially young people in vulnerable life situations and children and young people with disabilities?

READ MORE

[Nordic Cooperation on Children and Young People's Opportunities for Participation and Development During the Covid-19 Pandemic](#)

3. Collaboration meetings with the internal network

Participants:

- Representatives of organisations for young people with disabilities
- Representatives of the internal network in the Nordic Council of Ministers on the implementation of the disability perspective
- Eeva Mielonen, Senior Adviser, Department of Knowledge and Welfare, Secretariat of the Nordic Council of Ministers.

Agenda:

- Current topics are about the number of students with disabilities who apply for exchange via the Nordplus programme – and cooperation on marketing the Nordplus programme.

READ MORE

[Nordic Cooperation on disability](#)

[Nordplus](#)

4. Collaboration meetings with the Disability Council

Participants:

- Representatives of organisations for young people with disabilities
- Council for Nordic Cooperation on Disability (Disability Council)
- Secretariat of the Nordic Council of Ministers, Eeva Mielonen, Senior Adviser, Department of Knowledge and Welfare
- Secretariat from the Nordic Welfare Centre

Agenda:

- Welcome from the Secretary General of the Nordic Council of Ministers – Karen Elleman
- How to safeguard the perspective of children and young people with disabilities in the implementation of Programme 2023–2027

READ MORE

[Nordic Cooperation on disability](#)

[Nordic Programme for Cooperation on Disability Issues 2023–2027](#)

[The Council of Nordic Cooperation on Disability](#)

5. Inclusive working life – Expert seminar

Participants:

- Representatives of organisations for young people with disabilities
- Council for Nordic Cooperation on Disability
- Experts on inclusive working life from Nordic authorities and academia
- Secretariat from the Nordic Welfare Centre

Agenda:

- How can we take advantage of the great opportunities offered by digital and technological developments to increase inclusion?
- What strategies do we have for the inclusion of people with disabilities in a working life shaped by technological developments?
- Discussion of policies and strategies for inclusion in the working life of the future and the technology that is helping to shape it.

6. Collaboration meeting for the leaders of disability organisations for young people in the Nordic region (parts 1–3)

Participants:

- Representatives of organisations for young people with disabilities
- Sammenslutningen af unge med handicap (SUMH), Denmark
- The Norwegian Association of Youth with Disabilities/Unge Funksjonshemmede, Norway
- Secretariat from the Nordic Welfare Centre

Agenda:

- Exchange of information on key issues for the organisations
- which issues are important to the organisations right now?
- how does each organisation work with such issues?
- which partners/stakeholders (authorities, other NGOs) are involved in the issues?
- Prepare a joint statement for the Nordic Council of

Ministers' Freedom of Movement Council

- Prepare a joint statement for the inclusive workplace expert seminar
- How is it possible to increase cooperation between the Nordic organisations for young people with disabilities?
- How to safeguard the perspective of children and young people with disabilities in the implementation of Programme 2023–2027

READ MORE

[Nordic Programme for Cooperation on Disability Issues 2023–2027](#)

[The Council of Nordic Cooperation on Disability](#)



Organising the Summit

Background

The Nordic Council of Ministers' annual cooperation meetings with representatives of organisations for young people with disabilities are based on the Nordic Programme for Cooperation on Disability Issues 2023–2027. The purpose of these meetings is to strengthen the perspective of children and young people in Nordic cooperation on disability issues. The theme and content of the meetings will be based on the needs and wishes of children and young people.

These meetings contribute to the Nordic Council of Ministers' action plan for Our Vision 2030. Particularly in relation to Goal 9 on good, equal, and safe health and welfare for all, and Goal 11, on giving Nordic civil society, especially children and young people, a stronger voice and participation in Nordic cooperation. These meetings will help to realise the cross-cutting perspectives: gender equality and sustainable development. The UN CRPD is about equality for people with disabilities in all areas of society. In turn, equality is a prerequisite for social sustainability and is embedded in the UN Sustainable Development Goals under the goal of "leave no one behind."

The activities also contribute to Goal 12: maintain trust and cohesion in the Nordic region, its shared values and the Nordic community with a focus on culture, democracy, equality, inclusion, non-discrimination and freedom of expression.

Organisation of the summit

The agenda for the summit was developed in collaboration with the Danish Association of Youth with Disabilities (SUMH) and the Norwegian Association of Youth with Disabilities.

All three collaboration meetings for leaders of disability organisations for young people in the Nordic region were organised and led by the Danish and Norwegian Associations of Youth with Disabilities.

The representatives of the organisations in the Disability Council played a key role in identifying youth representatives from each of the Nordic regions.

The extent to which the representatives were able to participate depended on how the meetings were conducted. A centrally located conference hotel in Copenhagen was chosen as the venue for the summit. This was an appropriate hotel as it had enough rooms that are wheelchair accessible, as well as its convenient location in relation to public transport hubs.

Copenhagen was chosen because the Secretariat of the Nordic Council of Ministers is located there. The proximity to the Secretariat enabled staff from different policy and business areas to attend some of the cooperation meetings during the summit. A total of seven policy and business areas attended the summit.

The representatives of the youth organisations arrived at the hotel the day before the start of the summit and left the day after the end of the summit. This adaptation made travel easier for people with disabilities and also allowed the representatives to participate in the meetings without feeling too tired.

In order for the summit to take place, it was necessary to have a financial framework that enabled the representatives to bring their assistants. While some representatives brought as many as four assistants, other representatives brought no assistants.

A social programme was prepared and implemented with an emphasis on creating informal meeting places between representatives of the youth organisations, employees of the Secretariat of the Nordic Council of Ministers, members of the Disability Council, experts on inclusion in working life and experts on the participation of children and young people.

In the internal evaluation of this year's summit, we concluded that next year's summit could be based to a greater extent on various workshops in which the Nordic Council of Ministers asks the youth

representatives about their experience and views on specific issues.

Nordplus and the Nordic Committee for Children and Young People, NORDBUK, are two organisations that the youth representatives want to cooperate with.

The Danish Association of Youth with Disabilities (SUMH) and the Norwegian Association of Youth with Disabilities want to take greater responsibility for the agenda and meeting format for next year's summit.

Information about Nordic cooperation on disability must be strengthened during the preparation for next year's summit.



The youth organisations

The participants presented their organisations and shared their thoughts on important issues to discuss for young people with disabilities before the Nordic Youth Disability Summit.

[Watch all the video presentations on YouTube](#)





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List of all participating organisations:

Denmark

[The Danish association of Youth With Disabilities, SUMH](#)
(Sammenslutningen af unge med handicap, SUMH)

Finland

[SAMS Disability cooperation federation](#) (Samarbetsförbundet kring funktionshinder)
[HiA - Hörselskadade i arbetslivet rf.](#)

Faroe Islands

[Spyr meg/Javni](#)

Greenland

[Kalaallit Inuusuttut Innarluutillit Peqatigiiffiat](#)

Iceland

[The Icelandic Disability Alliance \(ÖBÍ\)](#)

Norway

[The Norwegian Association of Youth with Disabilities](#) (Unge Funksjonshemmede)

Sweden

[YDFS, Youth with Disabilities Sweden](#) (Nätverket unga för tillgänglighet, NUFT)

Åland

[Åland Disability Association](#) (Funktionsrätt Åland)

Welcome speech

Welcome speech from the Secretary General for the Nordic Council of Ministers,
Karen Ellemann



Photo: Ricky John Molloy/norden.org

"The Nordic Youth Disability Summit, which is taking place for the very first time, is a good example on how we can come together and give Nordic civil society, especially children and young people, a stronger voice and greater participation in Nordic cooperation. This is a very important day for Nordic cooperation on disability, and this summit is just the start. We all have a shared responsibility to ensure that the momentum continues."

About the publication

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