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# Co-creating digital solutions for persons with disabilities

Policies and strategies for tomorrow's digital challenges

Stronger focus on accessibility and user-friendliness is needed for developing better digital solutions for welfare services for persons with disabilities.

This side event focuses on strategies for co-creation on developing digital solutions for persons with disabilities. The Nordic countries aim to find solutions for full and effective participation in society for persons with disabilities, and use the advantages of the digital development.

**13 June, 1.15–2.30 PM (UTC -4)**

**Conference room (Cr) 11 UN building and via [live stream](#)**

Hosted by the government of Iceland and the Nordic Council of Ministers



**Government of Iceland**  
Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour



**Government of Iceland**  
Ministry for Foreign Affairs



**Nordic Council  
of Ministers**

# Co-creating digital solutions for persons with disabilities

## Policies and strategies for tomorrow's digital challenges

Persons with disabilities should have access, on an equal basis with others, to information and communications technologies and systems. Accessibility is a prerequisite for equality and the ability to act independently in society, in particular for persons with disabilities. Lack of accessibility can place people in vulnerable and marginalized positions.

By embracing innovation, universal design and user involvement, we can create public welfare services that are more accessible, efficient, and responsive to the needs of all citizens. At this side event, the Nordic countries share insight on strategic planning when developing the accessible digital world and on how they see the future.

### PROGRAMME

- **Welcome to the Nordic side event**  
Guðmundur Ingi Guðbrandsson, Minister of Social Affairs and the Labour Market, Iceland
- **Policies and strategies for inclusive digital solutions**  
Gry Haugsbakken, State Secretary, Ministry of Culture and Equality, Norway
- **Making policies and strategies work: experience from the real world**  
Guðrún Ágústa Guðmundsdóttir, Political Advisor to the Minister of Social Affairs and Labour, Iceland, and Thor Thorarinnsson, Senior Advisor, Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour, Iceland
- **Health demography and quality of life – possibilities and barriers**  
Thordur Reynisson, Senior Adviser, Nordic Innovation
- **Digital future – new challenges and solutions for persons with disabilities**  
Garðar Kristinsson Thorlacius, Rights Protection Officer for disabled people, Iceland
- **Reflections from the Nordic countries**  
Representatives from youth disability organisations:  
Eiður Welding, The Icelandic Disability Alliance  
Johanna Forsberg, Youth With Disabilities Federation, Sweden  
Siri Espe, The Norwegian Association of Youth with Disabilities  
Sunna Dögg Ágústsdóttir, Iceland's National Association of People with Intellectual Disabilities

**Moderator:** Maria Montefusco, Swedish Agency for Participation

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### NORDIC COOPERATION ON DISABILITY

The governments of the Nordic countries and organisations representing persons with disabilities cooperate on disability and inclusion issues within the Nordic Council of ministers. Modern welfare policy, UNCRPD and Agenda 2030 are important corner stones.

