Though more than a decade has passed after the CRPD entered into force, persons with intellectual or psychosocial disabilities are still often excluded from the political process. They experience multiple legal, institutional and social barriers to exercise their rights that prevent them from voting, standing for election for public office, civic participation, or simply having a say in their own lives. Persons with intellectual and psychosocial disabilities are often denied or restricted their legal capacity on the basis of having a medical condition or impairment or perceived as having deficient decision-making skills.

Even when no legal limitations exist, other obstacles, for instance inaccessible party manifestos, no easy-read information about elections, prohibition of assistance in voting and a lack of recognition of supported decision-making, make the exercise of these rights very difficult.

A significant number of countries have made positive changes, and more have embarked on legal, policy and institutional reform processes to address these barriers. With this opportunity, we would like to welcome you to discuss these issues and share good practices and lessons learned globally.

For this event, a UN Ground Pass is required. Unfortunately, only COSP 12 participants who have already registered for their pass will be able to attend.

Sign language and CART service are available.

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